



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Reportage on Yamoussoukro Minisummit on Liberia

Communique To Disarm, Encamp Troops

AB1709143591 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Text] Yamoussoukro (Ivory Coast), Sept 17 (AFP)—West African leaders on Tuesday were finalising a document from a two-day mini-summit here, outlining a process for disarming Liberia's warring factions—a result hailed here as a tentative breakthrough.

Foreign ministers and representatives from 10 of the 16 member countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) met until 3 A.M. Tuesday to prepare a draft communique spelling out means and conditions for Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) and other factions to disarm and encamp their troops.

Conference sources told AFP that the heads of state and senior officials had agreed to set up a committee comprising Nigeria, Senegal, The Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau to visit Sierra Leone and Guinea to reassure Taylor that the two neighboring countries would not allow groups to launch attacks against his NPFL from their territories.

Liberian refugee soldiers in Sierra Leone reportedly launched attacks two weeks ago into Liberia, and fighting has continued around the border since.

Sources said Taylor had asked for the committee so as to build confidence while he prepared to disarm his troops, who control virtually all of Liberia outside the capital Monrovia. But participants warned that it was not yet sure whether Guinea and Sierra Leone, who did not attend the summit, would agree to the committee's monitoring role in their countries.

Expansion of a Nigerian led ECOWAS peacekeeping force in Monrovia to include Senegalese troops has also been discussed. Taylor has repeatedly objected to the force being dominated by Nigeria and Ghana, and has urged French-speaking countries to deploy contingents. Taylor representatives and members of Amor Sawyer's Monrovia-based interim government were to have met Tuesday to set up a joint electoral commission.

Taylor Agrees To Disarm

AB1709195591 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Text] Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast, Sept 17 (AFP)—Liberian rebel leader Charles Taylor has agreed to disarm and encamp his forces to an enlarged West African peacekeeping force, a final communique from a meeting of regional leaders said here Tuesday [17 September]. A committee of five countries headed by Ivory Coast "welcomed the agreement" of the warring parties to implement under supervision of the Nigerian-led

force, known as ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], "the encampment of their troops in designated locations and disarmament," the statement said.

The accord also applies to a breakaway rebel faction led by Prince Johnson and to the Liberian Army. Arms and ammunitions would be deposited in "appropriate armories also under the supervision of ECOMOG."

The statement said "practical modalities" of the agreement would still have to be worked out. But conference sources said the vague wording has left much confusion over who will be in charge of the guns once they are surrendered.

Spokesmen for Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) said NPFL troops should also have representatives at the arms depots along with soldiers of ECOMOG, which is soon to include troops from Senegal.

"We are all going to watch the guns. They are my guns," said NPFL defense spokesman Tom Woewiyu. "We already have our soldiers encamped and our weapons packed in specific places. We will allow ECOMOG to have an armory where both of us will observe it," he added. He told AFP that ECOMOG would supervise the encampment and storing of the weapons but will not "take possession of those weapons."

Baccus Matthews, interim foreign minister in the Monrovia-based government headed by Amos Sawyer, said ECOMOG "will be supervising" the armories alone, in reference to the document presented after two days of talks here Tuesday. Matthews said the NPFL had made a concession in agreeing to disarm, adding that he was pleased with the agreements reached. He added that modalities for disarmament had to be formalized "by ECOMOG in consultation with the parties concerned."

In other decisions, Taylor's NPFL and Sawyer's interim government are to constitute a five-man electoral commission and a five-man ad hoc supreme court, the communique said.

On security at Liberia's border with Sierra Leone and Guinea, the meeting designated Senegal to lead a committee including Ivory Coast, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Nigeria to visit the two neighboring countries—which did not attend the meeting—to facilitate a return to normality.

Taylor forces and refugees soldiers from the late president Samuel Doe's army have been involved in fighting around the border for the past two weeks.

The committee is also to enlist the two countries' cooperation in implementing decisions of the meeting. The meeting also agreed "on the need to remodel and reinforce ECOMOG and reactivated earlier appeals to other member states of ECOWAS able and willing to contribute to do so without any further delay," the communique said.

Leaders of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) agreed to meet here in the Ivory Coast political capital for a fourth summit October 29. Ten West African countries were represented at the conference.

Minisummit Concludes; Statement Issued

*AB1709214391 Abidjan Radiodiffusion Ivoirienne
Radio in French 1930 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Communique issued in Yamoussoukro on 17 September at the conclusion of the third minisummit held by the Economic Community of West African States ad hoc committee on Liberia—read by Ivorian Foreign Minister Essy Amara]

[Text] The ad hoc committee on Liberia assessed the trend of events in the Liberian crisis since its last meeting held on 29 July 1991 at Yamoussoukro. The committee noted that since that meeting, consultations have been made not only among the Economic Community of West Africa States [ECOWAS] member countries but also involving friendly countries outside the subregion on a number of issues with a view to restoring peace and security in Liberia in an atmosphere of justice and dignity.

ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group]: The meeting recognized the crucial importance of creating the necessary conditions of peace and security on the field, which will strengthen the confidence of the parties concerned and create a conducive atmosphere for holding free, fair, and democratic elections in Liberia. To this end, the participants in the meeting agreed on the need to reshape and reinforce ECOMOG and reiterated its appeal to ECOWAS member countries, willing and able to send troops to ECOMOG, to do so without further delay. It was, consequently, noted with delight Senegal's announcement of its acceptance to send troops to ECOMOG.

Observation of Cease-Fire: The meeting participants noted with satisfaction that the interim government and

the National Patriotic Front of Liberia have both reaffirmed their commitment to continue to observe and reinforce the cease-fire in Liberia.

Encampment and Disarmament: The meeting participants noted with delight the parties' decision to embark, under ECOMOG supervision, on the encampment of their troops at areas to be designated and their disarmament and to keep the arms and ammunitions in appropriate arms depots, also under ECOMOG supervision. It is mandated that ECOMOG work out the practical modalities for implementing this agreement, maintaining liaison with the parties concerned during the process.

Electoral Process: Both parties decided to set up a five-member electoral commission that will organize and supervise the elections planned for Liberia. This commission is required to meet as soon as possible in Monrovia. Both parties also agreed to establish a five-member ad hoc supreme court charged with settling any disputes relating to the electoral process in accordance with the Liberian Constitution.

Missions to Guinea and Sierra Leone: Concerned about the worsening security situation in the border areas between Liberia and Sierra Leone and between Liberia and Guinea, the meeting participants requested Ivory Coast, The Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, and Nigeria to visit Guinea and Sierra Leone under Senegal's chairmanship. The objectives of this mission, among others, will be to convey to the heads of state of those countries the outcome of this meeting to ensure their cooperation for a smooth implementation of the agreement thus reached and to facilitate the return to normalcy at these border areas.

Vote of Thanks: The meeting participants expressed their profound gratitude to His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic of Ivory Coast, and to the Ivorian Government and people for the warm reception and hospitality accorded all the delegations as well as for the excellent facilities put at its disposal to guarantee the success of its deliberations.

Next Meeting: The committee decided to meet again in Yamoussoukro on 29 October 1991.

Issued in Yamoussoukro on 17 September 1991 [applause]

This communique will be signed by all heads of delegation.

Central African Republic

Two New Political Parties To Oppose RDC

AB1809101291 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] In the Central African Republic, two new political parties were registered over the weekend at the Ministry of Public Security and Territorial Administration. They are the Liberal Effort in Black Africa, ELAN, and the Liberal Democratic Party. The registration of these two new political parties brings to 10 the number of parties opposed to the Central African Democratic Rally, RDC, the former single ruling party.

Minister's Address Bans Planned Strike

AB1809103091 Bangui Radiodiffusion-Television
Centrafricaine Radio in French 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Address by Christian-Bernard Yamale, minister of civil service, social security, professional training, and labor; date and place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] Workers in the public sector, dear countrymen: For a week leaflets have been distributed calling on workers in the public sector to go on strike. In this regard, I would like to remind you that by Decree No. 9104 of 5 July 1991, signed by the prime minister and head of government, trade union activities in the public sector have been suspended until further notice and the bureau of the National Federation of Trade Unions in the above sector has been dissolved. These measures were dictated by the need for the government to restore public order and protect citizens, who are themselves victims of the trade unions' mistreatment.

The strike calls are in violation of the provisions of the above decree. The government is aware of the civil servants and state employees' sense of responsibility, who continue to go about their duties, despite the lateness in the payment of their salaries. Concerning their salaries, the government is doing all it can to make up for this lateness which, it must be recalled, was caused by the long strike that paralyzed the normal running of the national economy and dried up state coffers.

Consequently, a fresh strike would rather aggravate the situation fruitlessly. Since trade union activities in the public sector have been suspended until further notice, any participation in the planned strike would be illegal. Thank you.

Congo

Higher Council of Republic Begins First Session

AB1809100091 Brazzaville Voix de la Revolution
Congolaise Network in French 1830 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Excerpt] The Higher Council of the Republic, HCR, began its regular session at the Congress Hall this

morning. The transitional legislative body, in line with the constitutional provisions, is expected to examine the government's economic program, the revised 1991 state budget, several bills, and proposed laws.

At the opening of this regular session, HCR Chairman Monsignor Ernest Kombo called on the three transitional institutions to exist harmoniously to achieve a trouble-free and fruitful transition. Referring to himself, Monsignor Ernest Kombo stated that despite all the crises, he would not resign. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] It is first and foremost the responsibility of the three transitional institutions—each with its own path but still living in harmony—to keep up the spirit of the national conference with the view to ensure a fruitful and trouble-free transition. This was even the pledge made by all the participants. On 10 June, before the entire nation and the international community, the president of the Republic solemnly pledged to respect all the decisions of the national conference; would he now reconsider his decision a little? Some 153 participants, including myself, were elected councillors of the Republic; would they now give up their national mandate to become simple representatives of parties, associations, and religious organizations?

Concerning myself, your servant, I have accepted the delicate, but most exciting, double mission that the national conference has assigned me, namely, supervising the control and follow up of national conference decisions as well as leading the legislative body. In obedience to my people I agree to serve despite all the crises; I will not resign. [applause]

Regarding the prime minister, those who elected him were certainly fascinated by his technical skills and experience and by the fact that he emerged as the candidate embodying the nation's hope. I dare not believe that after only three months in office that hope is already lost. [end recording]

The present HCR session is taking place in such a bad political context that over the past few days some people have openly criticized the government. HCR Chairman Monsignor Kombo believes that the prime minister is the prime minister of the entire nation and remains the head of a transition government. Monsignor Ernest Kombo added that the hesitations of a government and constructive criticisms are tolerable as well as diversity of opinion. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] Mr. Prime Minister, since your brilliant election, you have been the prime minister of the entire nation which is a sign of pluralistic democracy. You remain the head of a national union government, which means that during the full transitional period, you do not have to fear opposition; that should be accepted by all parties and associations in the same way as they should also accept that abuse, slander, and harsh language have no place in the political program. The hesitations of a government are tolerable just as constructive criticisms and diversity of

opinion are allowed. What cannot be tolerated, however, is the sabotage of the transition.

Mr. Prime Minister, many things have been said about this government, but there is an essential characteristic which personally fascinates me, namely, the number and quality of legal practitioners whose presence in this government appeared to me as a reliable guarantee for the establishment of the law-abiding state which our entire people aspire to. In this connection, I cannot understand why that important advantage has not fully helped. Also it is less understandable that top magistrates have been threatened because their only crime is to have served their country loyally and competently at the national conference.

Last, it is difficult to explain that audiovisual psychodrama presented to us by the state press which, instead of seeking to convey the right information from the right sources to the people, still takes pleasure in playing the evil role of a simple resonant box. [end recording]

The HCR is holding its first regular session since 10 June when the national sovereign conference ended. Concerning the various items on the agenda for this session, let us listen once again to Monsignor Kombo:

[Begin recording] In pursuing some acts of the national conference, the HCR will examine the government's economic program, many bills related to the new investment code, restructuring the Congolese road maintenance board, the press, access of parties and associations to state audiovisual organizations, the Higher Council of Communication and Information, the definition of the responsibilities of media institutions, the Higher Council of Magistrates, and the status of former political officials. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Zaire

'Total Confusion' Prevails at National Conference

EA1709193591 Lubumbashi Voix du Zaire in French
0430 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Yesterday's sovereign national conference session did not meet people's expectations; only 2,700 delegates were approved from a total of 3,450. Yesterday, after the reading of the final report of the commission charged with verifying and validating the mandates and the brief introduction by the president of the provisional office of the national conference, total confusion prevailed at the People's Palace. This was caused by the prevarications of Kalonji Mutambayi immediately after the reading of the commission's final report and, more precisely, the provisional office president's proposal to adopt the report. Kalonji Mutambayi did not give many of the delegates, who had their own motions, a chance to speak. In fact, the delegates did not approve the report; only the office of the provisional commission appears to have approved it.

This explains the disorder and the intensity of protest noted at the People's Palace yesterday. Many delegates conveyed their reactions and statements to the media. This was certainly the case of Etienne Tshisekedi Wa Mulumba, who was very upset by what happened. He declared that provisional office President Kalonji Mutambayi should have accepted all the delegates' motions and that it was not the role of a single individual to direct the proceedings. [Words indistinct] will prevail throughout the proceedings of the sovereign national conference and that will be a victory. Tshisekedi also called for Kalonji Mutambayi's dismissal.

Nguza Karl-i-Bond, the Union of Independent Republicans and Federalists [UFERI] national president, who was also upset, bitterly pointed out that Kalonji Mutambayi was well known to be incapable of directing such proceedings. For the UFERI president, there is no sovereign national conference. According to him, he participated yesterday in a Popular Movement of the Revolution congress. He said that the office of the provisional commission has no right to make unilateral decisions; it should have listened to the delegates, he concluded.

In his bid to cool down the delegates' tempers, which were very hot after the departure of Kalonji Mutambayi, Bishop Masengo stressed the spirit of dialogue, calm, and nonviolence which should be the aim of the delegates. Bishop Masengo called upon the delegates to withdraw from the conference room so that they could have time to defuse the situation in collaboration with the various members of the [word indistinct].

Following the incidents, the expanded transitional government yesterday met Prime Minister Mulumba Lukodji. Having deplored the [word indistinct] under the chairmanship of Kalonji Mutambayi at the People's Palace yesterday, the expanded transitional government also deplored the behavior of some political parties accused of stirring up confusion at the People's Palace.

Meanwhile, the government thinks that during the next plenary session, delegates should speedily decide on the final [word indistinct] of the national conference. It is worth noting that the plenary session will, in principle, resume today at the People's Palace at 1400.

Further on Conference Proceedings

AB1709201691 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 17 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Zaire's national conference, vilified by the opposition coalition's self-styled Holy Alliance, has been packed with supporters of President Mobutu and keeps stumbling from crisis to crisis. It resumed its meetings yesterday and, almost immediately, there was a huge row. Opposition delegates objected to the agenda, the chairman fled, and it seems the opposition effectively

hijacked the proceedings by appointing their own conference chairman. From Kinshasa, Busongo Buyemi telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] The full session of Zaire's national conference, which resumed in the Palace of the People on Monday [16 September], fizzled out when the chairman of the conference's provisional bureau, Kalonji Mutambayi, refused to let (Marcel Lihau) of the opposition Union for Democracy and Social Progress [UDPS] read out a motion on behalf of the Holy Alliance. Chairman Kalonji Mutambayi had set only one agenda item for the session: the adoption of a report on conference accreditation.

The commission's chief rapporteur, Otoko Okito Sambo, was pursued from the platform where he was reading the report. There followed nearly half an hour of confusion and drama before he was able to return. The security forces intervened and some opposition leaders were seen

lying down before a wall of troops who were forcibly preventing them from reaching Chairman Kalonji Mutambayi. Eventually Mutambayi had to leave the hall through a small door, accompanied by a strong military escort. Other government and ruling MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution] delegates also left the hall. Determined to continue the proceedings, the members of the Holy Alliance and the Civil Society nominated Mr. (Monsengo Pasinie) as chairman of the national conference bureau there and then.

The Zairian Government has wasted no time in condemning the incidents at the conference and holds the main opposition groups to blame, but the leader of the opposition UDPS, Etienne Tshisekedi, said the authorities were responsible for what he called the barbaric scene. He said a genuinely sovereign conference could not be managed by one person alone, namely Kalonji Mutambayi, whose dismissal he demanded yesterday evening. [end recording]

Djibouti

Ethiopian Plane Crashes With 4 on Board 17 Sep

AB1709222291 Paris AFP in French 2047 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Text] Djibouti, 17 Sep (AFP)—A Hercules C-130 of the Ethiopian Airlines with four people on board crashed this evening on Mount Arreh (altitude of 1,200 m), 90 km south of Djibouti, the control tower reported. The aircraft, chartered by the World Food Program (WFP) to transport emergency food to Ethiopia, lost contact with the control tower at 1942 local time (1642 GMT). Djibouti soldiers at a border post saw flames on the mountain. A French Air Force helicopter with rescue equipment was sent to the site of the crash to locate possible survivors. The cause of the crash is unknown.

The aircraft had on board a four-man crew comprising the pilot, the copilot, the mechanic, and the assistant. The Hercules C-130, with registration OPAJL, took off from Djibouti with 20 metric tons of wheat, intended to be transported to Dire Dawa, an Ethiopian town located 300 km south of Djibouti. The crash occurred in the course of the return flight. According to some hints from air traffic controllers, the aircraft failed to land at Dire Dawa because its landing gear was jammed. It, therefore, had to make a U-turn to Djibouti to attempt a forced landing.

Since June this year, WFP has been coordinating the transport of relief food to Ethiopia, Somalia, and Eritrea, using the airport facilities in Djibouti where over 120,000 metric tons were piled up at one stage. Hercules C-130 cargo planes of several countries and airlines have been assigned to the transport operations. At the moment, over 20 shuttle flights are carried out every 24 hours by Hercules C-130 aircraft belonging to the Ethiopian Airlines, Trans-Afrique, or the Sudan Airlines. Canada has also sent three Hercules C-130 aircraft and about 60 soldiers to support WFP activities.

Somalia

Ali Mahdi Receives Backing From Guerilla Groups

EA1709132091 London BBC World Service
in English 1515 GMT 16 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] President Ali Mahdi of Somalia has received backing from guerrilla movements with whom he recently signed a peace accord for his position as Somali head of state. There is currently a cease-fire in Mogadishu between forces loyal to President Ali Mahdi and his rival, General Aydid, chairman of the USC [United Somali Congress] after heavy fighting in the capital, but although the movements are giving him their support, they do want the fighting to end. From Mogadishu, Said Bakhu telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] Yesterday, top officials from the movements which signed the Djibouti Accord issued a statement expressing deep sorrow at the factional fighting which has hit Mogadishu. The statement asked the interim president to restore peace and security and place its support to the work of the reconciliation committee made up of clerics and intellectuals set up in the immediate aftermath of the violence. As for General Aydid's call for President Ali Mahdi to resign, the leaders of the guerrilla movements endorsed Ali Mahdi's position as interim president.

The statement said that Ali Mahdi had been chosen as interim president for a period of two years, and a single movement, the USC, had no mandate to ask the president to resign. I understand that more than 600 people died and several hundreds were injured during the four days of factional fighting. Heavy weapons, including mortars and field guns, were used, and the capital was devastated.

Mogadishu has now returned to normal, and some people who fled in panic at the height of the fighting have now ventured to return to the city to take full stock of damages caused to their homes and to search for missing relatives, but many others have opted to remain in the countryside for fear that the cease-fire will not hold. [end recording]

Red Cross Plane Fired Upon; Flights Suspended

AB1709194291 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 17 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] A plane operated by the International Red Cross, ICRC, has come under fire as it flew over Somalia on an aid mission, and it seems although a cease-fire is supposed to be operating in Somalia, there are a lot of weapon-toting people still wandering around. On the line, Robin White asked our East Africa correspondent Colin Blane what happened to the ICRC plane.

[Begin recording] [Blane] It was flying from Mogadishu to Berbera this morning; it was taking medicine to northern Somalia, to Berbera, and when it was passing over the Galka'yo area in central Somalia there was fire from the ground. The plane was hit in the tail, and it was thought afterwards that it must have been a missile which (?struck) it, which would come as something of a nasty surprise because people thought there was something of a cease-fire going on.

[White] Now where is the aircraft now?

[Blane] The aircraft, instead of stopping at Berbera, went on to Djibouti, and the two pilots and three passengers were (?taken off) safely there and managed to land without any further trouble. But one result of this missile hitting the aircraft is that the ICRC has suspended all flights in Somalia tomorrow although they do say they expect to be able to resume on Thursday [19 September].

[White] Now if it was fired upon by one of the many armed groups in Somalia, which armed group would have been doing the firing?

[Blane] Galka'yo is right in the middle of the country. It is an area where there could be fighting between the USC [United Somali Congress] and the SSDF [Somali Salvation Democratic Front], but we wouldn't be able to say which side was responsible for firing it. It is just not possible to tell. [end recording]

Uganda

Museveni on Rwandan Shelling, Civil Defense

EA1709135491 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 1000 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni has assured the people of Kabale District that the government is doing everything possible to have peace reestablished in the area after numerous shelling incidents from the Rwandese into Uganda. Addressing a public rally at Kabanyunye stadium center, Mindorwa County yesterday, Mr. Museveni said that it is unfortunate that innocent civilians are being displaced by shelling from Rwanda, with some people losing their lives and property.

He informed the people that the NRA [National Resistance Army] will start teaching the local people methods of civil defense so that they know what to do in case of danger. The president also advised the people to intensify mobilization of local defense forces so that it would easily assist the NRA against intruders who sneak into their area to loot and destroy property or some normal activities.

Later President Museveni addressed a public rally in Kabale stadium, where he commended the people of the district for their cooperation, especially in helping to absorb displaced families instead of resorting to the creation of refugee camps in the area. [passage omitted]

Security Forces Shoot Down Passenger Plane

AB1709175591 Paris AFP in English 1710 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Text] Kampala, Sept 17 (AFP)—Uganda has acknowledged that its security forces last week shot at a passenger plane which was travelling from Kigali in Rwanda to

Goma in Zaire, the official NEW VISION newspaper reported on Tuesday [17 September]. Quoting highly-placed sources, the paper said that the Fokker 27 aircraft was hit while overflying Uganda's southwestern town of Kabale on the border with Rwanda.

Residents of Kabale town told AFP by telephone on Tuesday that they had heard a loud explosion followed by a cloud of smoke after the plane was hit at 1100 A.M. (0800 GMT) on Tuesday [10 September] last week. However, the plane managed to avoid more fire from the Ugandan side of the border and headed for Goma, where it crash-landed.

Earlier Tuesday, the director-general of the Zairean company owning the plane, Bemba Saolona, speaking to journalists in the Rwandan capital, accused the Ugandan Army of responsibility for the incident. Saolona said one of the 13 passengers on board was seriously injured by the shooting and he appealed to the Zairean Government to ensure that the country responsible paid compensation. The shooting of the plane comes three weeks after four Ugandan soldiers were killed by shells fired from Rwanda.

On Tuesday, Radio Uganda quoted President Yoweri Museveni as telling the people of the border district of Kabale that the government would do everything possible to ensure that incursions from neighbouring Rwanda were stopped. Though Museveni did not indicate the measures his government was taking, it is understood here that he has ordered commanders in charge of the border area to take tough action against any infiltration from Rwanda.

In recent weeks the government has been under considerable pressure from the local population on the border to act to stop armed incursions from Rwanda. The government has been slow in acting against the incursions because it did not want to be accused of taking sides with the rebels of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), who caused Uganda considerable embarrassment when they invaded Rwanda on October 2 last year.

The rebels, mostly minority Tutsis who have lived in Uganda as refugees for the past three decades, were serving in the Ugandan Army when they staged an unsuccessful invasion of their country in an attempt to overthrow the majority Hutu regime in Kigali.

Mandela Gives Statement on Peace Accord

*MB1309144891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1425 GMT 13 Sep 91*

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by: African National Congress, ANC: "ANC Statement on Current Violence and the Peace Accord"]

[Text] [No dateline as received]—Months of hard work, detailed negotiations and extensive cooperation should come to fruition tomorrow, 14 September, when over 40 organisations come together to pledge their commitment to peace. Our people want peace. Our country cries out for peace. Yet the carnage continues to escalate. In the tense and volatile situation that prevails today, all people and organisations committed to democracy, human rights and freedom should strive by all means at their disposal to publicly endeavour to reduce the level of tension and stem the tide of violence.

The ANC [African National Congress], and I personally, remain fully committed to a genuine peace process. Amongst other things, we stand for binding and enforceable mechanisms that will help ensure:

- codes of conduct for all political organisations;
- codes of conduct for the police and army;
- immediate investigation into all acts of violence, from whatever quarter;
- a ban on all weapons of any kind at public gatherings and rallies;
- an end to secret funding as part of a process of destabilisation;
- effective monitoring and control so no-one remains above the law.

Peace is not merely signatures on paper, but active and consistent commitment to practice political tolerance, to stand for peace in word and deed. All citizens, of whatever political persuasion, have the right to be protected in their homes, on the streets and at work. The signing of the peace accord, this public pledge to individually and collectively work for peace, places a moral authority and obligation on all the signatories.

The death of over 100 people in the last week, a high point in a continuing wave of violence, is an even more compelling reason for the accord to be signed and adhered to in both letter and spirit. Issued by Nelson Mandela President of the African National Congress 13 September 1991

Reaction to Signing of National Peace Accord**ANCYL Pledges Support**

*MB1609171691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1627 GMT 16 Sep 91*

[Text] Pietermaritzburg Sept 16 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] Youth League [ANCYL] in

the Natal Midlands has pledged its support for the National Peace Accord which was signed in Johannesburg at the weekend.

SABC radio news reported on Monday that the ANCYL's secretary-general of the region, Mr Stich Ngubane, said his office was waiting for details and direction to determine the role of the League in the implementation of the accord.

Mr Ngubane said his organisation had resolved at a meeting at the weekend, among other things, to start projects to help people that had been displaced by violence. He said his organisation would also embark on mass campaigns aimed at exposing the instigators of the violence.

ANC Secretary General on Accord

*MB1709105691 London BBC World Service in English
0535 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] Violence in Soweto has already cast a shadow over the peace accords signed by South Africa's main political groupings at the weekend, but despite that, more South Africans have welcomed the pact in euphoric terms. Archbishop Desmond Tutu apparently described it as a historic day quite unparalleled in the annals of our land. Well, Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC's secretary general, was at the signing. He then made a [word indistinct] trip to London where Fiona Labelistier asked him whether he thought the accord was worth the paper it was written on.

[Begin recording] [Ramaphosa] This time it is a multi-lateral agreement that involves more than 29 organizations that appended their signatures to it, and that in itself shows some will to try and resolve this. So it is worth the paper it is written on to the extent that so many organizations have committed themselves to it.

[Labelistier] Chief Buthelezi himself admitted he signed the accord reluctantly, and outside the hotel where the conference took place there was a demonstration by Inkatha supporters carrying their cultural weapons in defiance of the very accord that was being signed. Are you not concerned about Inkatha's apparent lack of commitment to the accord?

[Ramaphosa] Well that concerns us, but at the same time I think we have been victorious in bringing them into the convention and getting them to append their signatures to the accord. If they do not adhere to the provisions of the accord, we will be able to bring them before commissions of inquiry, the courts' arbitration boards, as well as the peace committee. It is my considered view that all these are going to actually put some strings on Inkatha.

[Labelistier] What if Inkatha would argue that the ANC's commitment to the peace accord is suspect? What is the ANC doing to get its own house in order?

[Ramaphosa] Well you see, in terms of the structures we have set up in the accord, we have to allocate people who are going to virtually work on a full time basis in ensuring that the accord is in force. We are going to appoint those people and relieve them of all the tasks that they are performing at present, and if need be we are going to even employ people to make sure that we don't give lip service to the accord.

[Labelistier] What do you perceive to be the attitude of the South African Government to the accord?

[Ramaphosa] Well during the negotiations we had a feeling that they were taking it quite seriously. What remains to be seen is whether the officials, the police, the various generals, brigadiers are actually going to commit themselves in the way that the politicians who were part to the negotiations, to this accord, have committed themselves. I have my own serious doubts as to whether we are actually going to see that happening.

[Labelistier] Could the ANC not have taken a more forceful position about stopping this violence? The ANC claims to have a lot of support at home, and certainly, in the wake of the revelations that the government was supplying Inkatha with money, it had renewed a wave of support in the international forum. You claim to have evidence that the violence last week was in some way cemented by a third hand. Surely, the ANC could have taken a more forceful position earlier about stopping this violence?

[Ramaphosa] Well after the revelations that the government was funding Inkatha, the ANC decided that it should take the responsible position and give leadership to the entire country by demanding that the South African Government should be replaced by an interim government. The South African Government has shown over and over again that it is incapable of stopping the violence. It does not have the will and it does not have the political commitment to stop the violence. We are looking forward to putting that demand for an interim government at the all-party congress and have it discussed and we will be putting forward forceful arguments why the South African Government should relinquish power.

[Labelistier] What happens if it doesn't relinquish that power?

[Ramaphosa] Well you see, we will obviously have to revert to the only power that we have and that is our people. We are where we are because people's power has pushed the De Klerk government to get to the point, to where they are today, and that will be repeated until we finally win our freedom. [end recording]

Transkei's Holomisa Comments

MB1409125291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1027 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Text] Transkeian military ruler Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa said the peace accord was not going far enough as

the preamble did not give the causes of violence. The accord also did not define a clear constitutional path for the future, he added. Gen Holomisa said the general principles fell short of the accord's aim as they were supported to be preceded by an investigation into the violence. Mechanisms to enforce the accord were also inadequate, he said.

"The code of conduct of political parties and organisations would not work without a firm mechanism for its implementation."

He said the peace accord should have been preceded by an investigation as to why previous accords had failed.

"We need to remind one another that the search for the solution (to an end to violence) cannot be entrusted to the tripartite alliance of the ANC [African National Congress], the government and the IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party]." He said all parties and governments should be involved in the peace accord right from its inception.

The chairman of the session, Dr Sam Motsueyane, responded by saying the peace document would not solve all the problems, but would be expanded.

Leader of the opposition National People's Party in the Indian house of delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said there was a need to cultivate a culture of tolerance. No political party should propagate the isolation and ostracisation of individuals on the basis of their political beliefs.

"We need to disengage from the campaign to have international countries to isolate and ostracise certain political organisations", he added.

It was the right of representatives of minority parties to have freedom of association, said Mr Rajbansi.

Lebowa's chief minister and the leader of the United People's Front, Mr Nelson Ramodike, called on political organisations to desist from personal attacks, ahead of the implementation of the peace accord.

He appealed for political tolerance and said he was tired of the humiliation of community leaders.

Chief Mokonyana, representing Transkeian traditional leaders, complained that the peace accord emphasised the role of political parties, but made no mention of traditional leaders and appealed that they be accorded the respect they deserve.

Mr M.J. Mahlangu called for the disbanding of self-protection units as they could lead to faction fighting in rural areas. He said the present authorities should be responsible in the maintenance of law and order.

Democratic Party MP [Member of Parliament] and spokesman on justice Mr Dave Dalling said it was the participants' critical duty to convey the terms of the

accord to the people at grassroots. "The accord will succeed or fail at the level of the people on the ground," Mr Dalling said.

The freedom of expression typified by the holding of rallies and protest marches, he said, rested with a bureaucratic morass, hostile authorities, and lack of sufficient information to magistrates.

Mr Dalling said the principles and laws relating to free expression should be changed by the government to a right and not a privilege.

The presiding bishop of the Methodist Church, Bishop Stanley Mogaba, said it would be a pity if, after the peace convention, he went home to people who were not touched by the peace exercise.

Bishop Mogoba suggested rallies be held where major groups in different communities could be seen together. This could reach people and in this way translate the lofty ideas of the peace accord to the people.

Meanwhile, there was an appeal to speakers to refer to the Inkatha Freedom Party as such and not just Inkatha.

Transkei Will Abide by Accord

*MB1509220691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2152 GMT 15 Sep 91*

[Text] East London Sept 15 SAPA—Although the Transkei did not sign the church and business-brokered peace accord on Saturday, the homeland would abide by its guidelines, Transkei's military ruler Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa said on Sunday. Gen Holomisa said he had already endorsed his government's support for peace initiatives despite the Transkei government's serious reservations about the accord.

Reacting to the presence of a large number of armed Inkatha Freedom Party supporters outside the Johannesburg hotel where the accord was signed, Gen Holomisa said: "Political posturing and militaristic demonstrations of might are not the best guarantees for peace".

Victims of recent violence had been killed not only by gunmen but also by "people carrying dangerous weapons like those displayed outside the hotel by Inkatha supporters." He questioned what action would be taken if Inkatha refused to abide by the peace accord.

Bophuthatswana Supports Accord

*MB1709154291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1508 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[SAPA PR wire service: issued by Dixon Soule Associates, media consultants for the government of Bophuthatswana, on behalf of the Department of Information, on 17 September: "President Lucas Mangope Reacts to the Peace Accord"]

[Text] Bophuthatswana has unreservedly welcomed and pledged its support for the National Peace Accord signed

in Johannesburg at the weekend. President Lucas Mangope said the fact that so diverse a cross section of opinion could be rallied behind a peace initiative augured extremely well for the future.

The Bophuthatswana delegation at the peace conference was unstinting in its praise of, and support for, the goals and ideals enunciated in the accord. President Mangope said the underlying objectives of the accord were fully in line with Bophuthatswana's often stated policy of seeking to resolve problems and conflict by dialogue and, where necessary, compromise.

"It is gratifying to see our well known policy of the peaceful, negotiated resolution of problems being vindicated as it has been by the signing of this accord in South Africa," President Mangope said.

He said he was particularly pleased to note the contents of Chapter Two of the accord dealing with a code of conduct for political parties and organisations.

Elements of this chapter which were specifically welcomed were those prohibiting intimidation and compulsion of people to join particular political parties or attend their meetings. A further provision which was welcomed was the prohibition placed on language calculated to incite violence or hatred, and the ban on willfully false allegations used at meetings or contained in pamphlets, posters or other written material circulated in the name of any political party or anonymously.

"In the spirit of this historic accord Bophuthatswana once again reiterates its standing, open invitation to any person or any organisation wishing to discuss any issue with us to take advantage of our open door policy," President Mangope said.

Boer Homeland Party Leader Comments

*MB1709175691 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1637 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] Roodepoort Sept 17 SAPA—The Boerestaats Party [Boer Homeland Party—BSP] will negotiate with the government only if future peace conferences, such as the signing of the Peace Accord on Saturday, are held outside designated Boer areas, says BSP leader Robert van Tonder. Mr van Tonder, who was addressing a public meeting in Roodepoort on Tuesday night, said the government had no right to adjudicate or negotiate on the future of Boer areas. He added he had approached all rightwing political groups to boycott any possible election or referendum, unless the rightwing was granted equal media space and time.

Commenting on negotiations on a new constitution, he said that the Boers would not be prepared to talk to people who did not recognise the existence and rights of the Boer nation. The BSP would send a "freedom deputation" overseas in the foreseeable future, Mr van Tonder said. The Boer nation had become Africa's forgotten race, and it should again become known to the world.

Ciskei Leader on Commitment to Peace

*MB1809101591 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0719 GMT 18 Sep 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Sept 18 SAPA—Ciskei's signing of the National Peace Accord was a symbol of the homeland's commitment to the "orderly political processes of the future", according to Ciskei military ruler Brig Oupa Gqozo. Speaking at a breakfast meeting of the Executives Association of South Africa in Johannesburg on Wednesday, Brig Gqozo said the "spirit and the letter of the accord should be clearly understood and adhered to by all parties".

The peace accord was "old news" in Ciskei as its provisions were covered by the homeland's constitution and bill of rights, Brig Gqozo said. "It will therefore not be difficult for us to fulfill our commitment to its terms," he said, adding that political parties and movements in Ciskei would be expected to heed the peace document.

Soviets React to Signing

*MB1809092391 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
0500 GMT 18 Sep 91*

[Text] The interest office in South Africa of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, says the signing of the National Peace Accord at the weekend is proof of the serious intentions of influential political forces to move toward establishing a democratic and nonracial state in this country. The ministry said in a statement that it hoped that those political forces that had not signed the accord could do so soon. It said that the Soviet Union was sure that South Africa's problems could be solved by overcoming mutual distrust, by developing political dialogue, and through constructive cooperation. The Soviet Union was prepared to give assistance in promoting a political settlement in South Africa.

Japan Welcomes Signing of Accord

*MB1709114291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1101 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] Pretoria Sep 17 SAPA—The signing of the peace accord on Saturday [14 September] has been welcomed by the government of Japan. A statement released by the office of its consulate-general on Tuesday said the conclusion of the accord provided an important basis for the progress of the negotiation process in South Africa. It added the Japanese Government hoped all parties concerned would abide by the accord to contain violence and that negotiations on a new constitution would start soon.

Witwatersrand Violence Claims Four More Lives

*MB1409061891 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
0500 GMT 14 Sep 91*

[Text] The violence on the Witwatersrand has claimed another four lives. Three people were shot dead in

Soweto, and a man was burned to death in Alexandra when a squatter shack was set alight. Two men have been killed in vehicle hijackings in Johannesburg. A motorist was shot dead in Braamfontein last night when he was attacked by three assailants who tried to steal his car, and a security guard was shot dead near Crown Mines when the truck in which he and another guard were traveling was hijacked.

IFP Casualties Reported in Panga Attack

*MB1409164491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1621 GMT 14 Sep 91*

[Text] Johannesburg Sept 14 SAPA—A man was hacked to death and three people wounded when a group of Inkatha supporters were allegedly attacked by panga-wielding residents of the Selby hostel on Saturday afternoon, police said.

The Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) supporters were returning on foot from the signing of the historic National Peace Accord by their leader, IFP President Mangosuthu Buthelezi, ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela and State President F.W. de Klerk in Johannesburg.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Maj Dave Bruce said the attack, at 2.40PM near John Vorster Square police headquarters in downtown Johannesburg, appeared to be the only violent incident arising from the arrival of about 2,000 armed IFP supporters at the plush Johannesburg hotel where the peace accord was signed.

Maj Bruce said the killed man was stabbed and hacked to death while another two IFP supporters and a woman were wounded. The three injured were admitted to the Hillbrow Hospital. No arrests had been made by Saturday evening, Maj Bruce said.

Sudan Refuses Permission for Two SAA Overflights

*MB1709133691 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1100
GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] Two South African Airways [SAA] flights to and from London were forced to turn back late yesterday when they were refused permission to overfly Sudan. SAA spokesman Leon Els told our external news desk that no reason had been given and that SAA was awaiting an explanation from the Sudanese Government.

Mr. Els said SAA had been using the route for some weeks without any problem. He confirmed that the new IBF junior lightweight champion, Brian Mitchell, was on the flight from London. The flights have been rescheduled and will arrive at their destinations tomorrow.

SAA 'Misunderstanding' Resolved

*MB1709174891 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1652 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[SAPA PR wire service issued by South African Airways]

[Text] SAA [South African Airways] has just announced that the misunderstanding over flying routes with Sudan and Egypt has been resolved and as from tonight (Tuesday) the eastern route over Sudan and Egypt will be followed. Issued by the Public Relations Department of SA Airways.

Justice Minister 'Improving' After Heart Attack

*MB1709124991 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1214 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] Pretoria Sept 17 SAPA—The condition of Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee, who suffered a minor heart attack was improving, a spokesman for his office said on Tuesday. The Ministry of Justice said Mr Coetsee—a key player in the government's reform process—was feeling well and his condition was stable. He has suffered no complications since the heart attack on Sunday [15 September].

Mr Coetsee is recuperating in the H. F. Verwoerd Hospital in Pretoria and a period of rest has been prescribed. Although it was not yet known how long Mr Coetsee is expected to be away from work, a temporary replacement was expected to be announced later on Tuesday.

Law, Order Minister Assumes Duties

*MB1709151091 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1400 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr. Hernus Kriel, will assume the duties of the minister of justice, Mr. Cobie Coetsee, who is recovering from a minor heart attack. This has been announced by the Office of the State President. The Ministry of Justice said Mr. Coetsee was making good progress in the H.F. Verwoerd Hospital in Pretoria where he was admitted on Sunday. He is expected to resume his duties after a proper rest. The minister of regional development and state expenditure, Mr. Ami Venter, has been appointed acting chairman of the Ministers Council in the House of Assembly during Mr. Coetsee's absence.

PAC on UN Assistance To Political Parties

*MB1709163491 Johannesburg Radio RSA in English
1115 GMT 17 Sep 91*

[Report on interview with Pan-Africanist Congress Secretary General Benny Alexander by Stein de Preuter; place and date not given—from the "Africa South" program]

[Text] The secretary general of the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC], Benny Alexander, says the United Nations will continue supporting political parties in South Africa even if they do not sign the Peace Accord. Mr. Alexander

said a statement to the contrary by ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela did not correspond with reality. Benney Alexander spoke to Stein de Preuter:

[Begin recording] [Alexander] The ANC supporters: the Soviet Union, the Eastern Bloc, those communist parties no longer exist, and, therefore, there is no funds forthcoming to the ANC from those, whether Mr. de Cuellar decides to appeal to them to give the ANC money; they have said they will not do so. They've evicted the ANC from those areas so it's not of much consequence a statement whatsoever. In fact I've just received a letter from Mr. Perez de Cuellar in which he submits to the PAC his submissions to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the situation in South Africa. He has consulted very widely, and he gives us his submissions, and amongst his submissions he makes this statement: I stand ready when requested by the South Africans themselves and the international community to help in the promotion of the process and in the provision of assistance during the transitional period and beyond, unquote.

[De Preuter] So Mr. Perez de Cuellar is prepared to assist anybody who needs assistance?

[Alexander] Mr. Mandela was actually responding to a statement made by Mr. Makwetu [PAC President], in which Mr. Makwetu says that seeing that the main parties always accused of the (?violence) are always pointing fingers at each other. Mr. Makwetu is calling on the United Nations and the international community to become involved here to actually try and find out who is perpetrating the violence. Because there are certain organizations who have a habit of accusing each other, maybe he didn't like that, maybe he felt that it refers to his organization. That is why in response he said that they should not give us, he thought he'd get back at the PAC. But I do not think he understood the spirit in which Mr. Makwetu made his statement. [end recording]

18 Sep Press Review on Current Events, Issues

MB1809114291

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

National Peace Accord Start To New South Africa—"We do not believe that the National Peace Accord heralds the birth of the new South Africa," begins Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 16 September in its page 6 editorial. "We do not believe, either, that it is a magic wand that will ensure peace. But it is a start on the road to a new South Africa, it is a start on the road to peace, and if its terms are observed in both spirit and letter, it will prove to be a most remarkable document."

THE STAR

Key Leaders Not Implementing Spirit of Peace Accord—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 18 September in a page 14 editorial says the National Peace Accord is a

"social contract such as we have never seen before, and it is, for all its flaws, one of the noblest documents yet produced by political leaders in this schismatic country. How sad, then, that key actors in the accord appear not to be implementing with any obvious energy the spirit of the document to which they attached their names." It is a "simple enough task" for Mandela and Buthelezi to go on national television and urge their followers "not to carry arms in public." "it is not good enough for any politician to sit on his thumbs because the 'technical details' have not been finalised. In fact, in the context of the unending bloodshed, such inaction could even be regarded as disgraceful. If the politicians believe in what they have signed, they must say so."

SOUTH

Criticism of Government 'Top-Down' Approach To Crises—"After more than 50 years in government, the National Party government still finds it difficult to shake off the arrogance of office," declares a page 24 editorial in Cape Town SOUTH in English for 5-11 September. "What else explains its top-down approach to the education crisis, to privatisation, taxation—and indeed its whole reform package?" "The authorities evidently fear that consultation with democratic forces will be a slippery slide into an interim government entailing a loss of at least some of their power. The problem is that their alternative—a top-down approach and a refusal to relinquish any real control—means that a negotiated resolution of our problems will remain elusive."

RAPPORT

Editorial Views Signing of National Peace Accord—"The peace accord on its own will not guarantee peace for South Africans because it will not change the hearts of the people," notes a page 14 editorial in the Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans on 15 September. "It is common practice for documents of this nature to be placed on a shelf to gather dust. For this reason the leaders who signed the peace accord in Johannesburg should undertake to educate and continually remind their supporters to observe the accord." "In order to adhere to the spirit of the accord the leaders will have to make a big adjustment. They will have to adopt a new political style and work hard to reach a compromise."

Constructive Proposals Needed To End Violence—"The violence over the past week has again resulted in a flood of accusations against the government, saying that it does have the power to end violence but is not eager to do so," notes a second editorial on the same page. "Do these people want the government to declare another state of emergency? Do they want violence to be met with violence? If this is the case then they should state this loudly and clearly so that the world can hear them." "How do they explain the fact that rifles and bombs featured prominently in the attacks while they continue to moan about cultural weapons?" "A state of emergency will only hold unnecessary economic, legal and emotional implications for South Africa."

BEELD

Peace Accord Positive Process for South Africa—"Every positive South African should pray that the signatories to the historic National Peace Accord achieve their aim to end violence in black townships," begins a page 10 editorial in the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 16 September. "The event can be described as the first significant milestone toward building a new South African nation." "Only the politically blind can still hold the view that diversity in South African society is a good reason to divide and place people into small compartments." It is a pity that the right-wing sector did not attend the signing of the peace accord. Although they are a minority group they still have an important contribution to make toward the development of the country." "True peace and stability will only reign when a new constitution is developed. No stone should be left unturned in attempting to get a multiparty conference under way."

* Atomic Energy Corporation: New Role Envisaged

* Restructuring Planned

91AF1333A Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL
in English 16 Aug 91 pp 5-6

[Text] The Atomic Energy Corp of SA [Republic of South Africa] (AEC), once top-secret and, to many, even sinister, has opened its previously tightly closed doors to commerce and industry.

And inside the formerly highly classified establishment at the Pelindaba complex, near Pretoria, is revealed a range of superior high-technology products, services and capabilities that its chief executive officer, Dr Waldo Stumpf, believes will compete effectively in domestic and world markets.

This belief is founded on research that was undertaken in preparation of the "AEC 2000 Plus" plan for the restructuring of the AEC along commercial lines. The strategy has seen the launch of a group of business units that will, says Stumpf, prosper or perish in the market without any State subsidy.

Many have questioned whether society at large and commerce and industry in particular have a need for nuclear technology. The answer is an emphatic "yes." But, in any case, there is much more to the AEC than its nuclear know-how. It has acquired and developed a set of capabilities that are not only unique in southern Africa, but which have direct relevance for future economic growth.

Already, the AEC has made SA one of the few countries to have achieved self-sufficiency in the production of nuclear fuel. This is of immense significance for a region facing an energy-hungry future.

Established in 1971 to manufacture fuel for SA's nuclear reactors, the AEC, through its predecessor organization,

the Atomic Energy Board, has been involved in the nuclear industry since 1960.

Today, it is a national resource of potentially greater value than the gold in the reefs. It is a center of learning, ability and achievement in high-energy and high-technology engineering.

The AEC's skills are awesome—and expensive. For more than 30 years, it has been the recipient of generous State funding. This has made it unpopular with many who have seen other—to them more important—priorities given smaller than needed disbursement of taxpayers' monies.

These people, particularly, should be happy that the AEC, an organization with fixed assets valued on the balance sheet at R[ands]1.2bn, is steadily reducing its reliance on subsidies and is gaining an increasing proportion of its income from marketing its highly sophisticated products and services.

Will it ever be completely free of subsidy? "It is possible eventually," says Stumpf, a distinguished metallurgist (Brunton medalist and professor extraordinary at the University of Pretoria) who has spear-headed the AEC's commercialization drive.

The 20-year "AEC 2000 Plus" plan sets the objective of financial independence of government within the next 15 years or so. The organization is already on track to reduce the government-funded proportion of its income significantly every year, he says.

"To transform an organization that is basically highly strategic and has operated for years as a secret agency into being open, commercially based and market-driven, cannot be done overnight. But we are well on our way to achieving that."

Stumpf nevertheless sees the AEC as continuing to receive funds from the State, which he describes as "an important customer."

AEC's single biggest customer is Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission], which buys some of its nuclear fuel for the Koeberg nuclear power station near Cape Town from AEC. Only some, because Eskom, not wanting all its eggs in one basket, also has a purchase contract with an overseas supplier.

When, in the early Seventies, it was decided to establish a "front-end" reactor fuel cycle to supply Koeberg, SA was already a major exporter of uranium to the world markets. Beneficiation of locally mined uranium seemed logical and economically desirable. This led to the development of a processing facility that takes the product from the mine and, after considerable high-level input and fabrication, to delivery of fuel elements for nuclear reactors.

"When this front-end capability was launched, there was a major expanding market in uranium and lithium," says Stumpf. "Many countries had ambitious nuclear power programmes and the long-term objective of exporting enriched uranium made good economic sense."

In the event, the market slumped, as difficulties—political more than technological—slowed progress towards what is widely accepted among engineers and scientists as a clean, safe form of electricity generation.

Such panic as followed the 1979 release of a relatively small amount of radiation from the Three Mile Island power station in Pennsylvania—there were no fatalities—and the 1986 nuclear reactor disaster at Chernobyl, USSR, have both slowed and increased the cost of commissioning nuclear power stations.

"We don't minimize these concerns," says Stumpf. "This unfortunate accident at Chernobyl should not have happened, but it happened in a plant of a design that would never have received an operating licence in SA or anywhere in the West. Disaster is not inherent in nuclear power; that particular design was unsafe and should never have been built."

Fear of nuclear power as highlighted by the exciting (but technically inaccurate) hit film *The China Syndrome*, starring Jane Fonda and Jack Lemmon, was compounded by the real loss of life and forced evacuation of scores of thousands of people in the wake of Chernobyl. The severe slowdown in the nuclear power industry has caused a tremendous glut in the world uranium market.

"it is out-and-out a buyers' market, with many former buyers running down their stocks and even selling off. That has had a major impact on AEC's facilities, which were designed to produce nuclear fuel for both SA's own needs and for export," says Stumpf.

This has caused a financial headache for which there is no quick cure. Putting the issue into perspective, Stumpf says: "We believe that worldwide, the present problems in nuclear power are short- to medium-term. From about 1995 onwards, the uranium market should start picking up and new orders for nuclear power stations are expected to increase from then on. We are in a situation of having to survive for, I would say, a decade or so."

To ensure survival, fuel production has been cut back drastically while, at the same time, the capacity to expand when market conditions warrant it has been preserved.

That news may disappoint, even horrify, anti-nuclear activists, but Stumpf's view, which is common among those involved in large-scale energy production, is that no other long-term option appears viable.

"Personally, I am highly in favor of other forms of power generation—renewable ones, solar, wind, hydro and so on—but though they may seem more benign, they are not without problems, including environmental problems. Many windmills in Europe and in America have had to close down because of noise pollution. Also, maintenance on these windmills is highly dangerous.

"Solar power, in turn, is very costly. Just to give you an idea: to provide all of SA's present electricity needs by solar power, it would require a solar farm about the size of Pretoria. You could not build that in the desert

because of the dust problem, so you have to build it on good arable land, over which you would put a concrete slab the area of Pretoria. Maintenance costs are high."

And, of course, when there is no wind or no sun.... "People are a bit unrealistic about the benefits of these alternative energy sources. They can play a great role in some specialized application, but, for the foreseeable future, the world and SA will still need nuclear power," he says.

How far into the future does Stumpf look? For most of the next 50 years, he believes, coal will continue to be the major source of electricity in SA. But, large as they are, coal reserves are limited. Those identified as suitable for power generation, could, depending on future demand, be exhausted by about 2040.

Beyond then what? Stumpf estimates that renewables—mainly solar and small hydro—may make up to about 5 percent of SA's total energy requirement.

"To the north of our country, there is tremendous hydro potential, but my guess is SA won't import more than 15 percent of its energy needs. The remaining 80 percent will have to come from other sources and that will almost certainly be nuclear, which will have to be phased in as coal-burning stations come to the end of their productive life."

Now, Eskom has surplus generating capacity, making it unlikely that it will invest in any nuclear power stations until early in the next century, but demand should pick up towards the year 2010.

In the meantime, AEC intends to continue selling on the world market. Stumpf says he does not underestimate the difficulties involved when tremendous stocks of enriched uranium for both civilian and military use have been built up over many years.

"The extent of these stocks is not really well known but what is well known is that the Soviet Union is starting to move stock on to the world market at very low prices. This will certainly affect the world market for the next few years."

Faced with this outlook, the AEC did a "swot"—strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats—analysis.

"Looking at our internal strengths, we saw that over the many years, we had built up a tremendous amount of high technology in our organization, mainly as a spinoff from the fuel development programme, but also from other areas.

"The question arose, should the AEC be reduced to a very small advisory body to government, or should it try to make this technology available to the country which invested in it? We feel we have an obligation to the country to bring this technology to the market place for the benefit of the country as a whole."

Given the pressure on government to reduce spending, the AEC clearly could not simply wait for good times to come again, while continuing to swallow large amounts of taxpayers' money. So, if this ambition were to be achieved, it was decided, it would have to be done on a commercial basis.

Many, probably most, businessmen will approve of this, but the move has not been without critics. Some companies fear AEC's entry into the market on the grounds that commercial means competitive, and the AEC has the unfair advantage that it has been funded since inception by the State.

"We are highly aware that we must not compete unfairly with the private sector," says Stumpf. "Fortunately, the technology that we have gathered here is highly sophisticated and there are very few areas where we would compete with established industries. In those few areas where we might compete directly, we would prefer to cooperate and I invite anybody who feels prejudiced by our moves to come and talk things over with us."

* New Markets Sought

91AF1333B Johannesburg *FINANCIAL TIMES*
in English 16 Aug 91 pp 9-10

[Text] By even the most optimistic projections, it will be many years before the Atomic Energy Corp (AEC) is self-funding if, indeed, it ever becomes so. Should the establishment not rather be closed down to stem the drain on the taxpayers' pocket, or to divert this money to meet more pressing needs?

AEC staff receive such suggestions with horror. There are overwhelming reasons to continue operations, they contend. It is not just a matter of saving their own jobs, but of the national good.

Dr Anthony Jackson, executive GM [General Manager], business development, argues in a recent paper entitled Nuclear Energy Technology and Its Spinoffs for Industry that the maintenance of technological expertise is fundamental to the promotion of economic growth and the creation of wealth.

"While the causal relationship between investment in technology and the derived benefits for the nation is complex and of long duration, evidence for the link is incontrovertible," he says.

"Technology is the most important determinant of improvement in productivity which, in turn, has beneficial influences on inflation rates and international competitiveness, leading to larger contributions to the economy from exports."

The necessity for fostering economic growth and creating wealth is now critical to survival, says Jackson, and will likely become more so in the near future.

"The role of technology in wealth creation for the benefit of all citizens of the country needs to be demonstrated

and emphasized, particularly in countries where Third-World components of the electorate may have needs seemingly unrelated to the development and maintenance of modern technology."

SA [Republic of South Africa] has immense potential for the generation of wealth by adding value, through the medium of technology, to its abundance of raw materials, he says.

"It is important that SA selects and maintains those key technologies needed for wealth creation that are appropriate for local conditions and resources, and that these be used as a basis to gain international acceptance and forge alliances.

"The AEC, through its development locally of the nuclear fuel cycle, has amassed a considerable technological base. In making available these resources for the benefit of the country, it is set to play a leading role in the advancement of SA's economic well being."

The corporation's involvement in developing a home-grown nuclear fuel production capability has parallels in the synfuel programme, says Jackson. Both were the result of strategic imperatives and were not necessarily founded on economic viability criteria, but both have contributed enormously to the establishment of a large pool of core technologies.

"The corporation believes that the investment in technological expertise that has already been made should be fully exploited as part of the national technological infrastructure."

Jackson paraphrases the AEC's vision of its future role thus: "As a leader in the high technology field, the corporation aims to be the most successful SA supplier of specific technologies—as an essential contribution to national well being."

AEC sets out to market its goods from the standpoint that the focus of its activities should be on markets where its unique core competencies are in demand, he says. It acknowledges that State-supported enterprises should avoid competing directly and unfairly with tax-paying private enterprises operating in similar fields of activity with comparable quality standards.

"To avoid conflict with private sector interests, the AEC has formulated and implemented a number of policies and strategies. Firstly, it is our intention to aggressively pursue export opportunities. Priority markets are currently Taiwan, eastern Europe and the USSR and our neighboring countries in Africa.

"In the second instance, those competencies which are unique in SA and which can play a role assisting local industry to be more competitive will be marketed in their own right as viable activities. Clearly, this is niche marketing which cannot pose threats to existing private initiatives."

An important policy is to establish alliances or joint ventures with private enterprise, both in SA and abroad.

"The corporation has already established such relationships and is in the process of negotiating additional agreements in key areas. In this way, it is envisaged that State enterprises, previously the sole developers and supporters of indigenous technology, will act as facilitators of future technology promotion in partnership with private enterprise.

"Far from being viewed as potential unfair competitors, the AEC and its technologies should be seen by leading private enterprises as a resource and an opportunity which, by means of alliances, joint ventures or partnerships, can sharpen their competitive edge."

* Entering Business World

91AF1333C Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL
in English 16 Aug 91 pp 10, 13-14

[Text] Few knowledgeable people would argue that the Atomic Energy Corp (AEC) has achieved many of its original objectives.

But now that the objectives themselves have changed, there is an obvious need for the corporation itself to change.

The pressure to commercialize has dictated much of this change and the result has been a massive restructuring into three operating groups:

- The nuclear fuel cycle group, which manufacturers and sells reactor fuel elements;
- The technology development group, formerly the R&D group. The change of name goes with a change of function. Like the CSIR [Council for Scientific and Industrial Research], it has become much more goal-oriented, doing less basic research and more development of future technologies for commercial exploitation; and
- The business development group, which has been set up to launch individual businesses based on the AEC's core technologies that have shown commercial potential. The group now has 10 business units, each of which is run as an independent business, with its own mission, business plan and set of objectives.

To get to this structure and to the point where the business units are producing a surplus of income over direct costs, has been "very painful," says AEC CE [Chief Executive] Waldo Stumpf, citing a reduction in personnel from a peak of about 8,000 staff 10 years ago, to about 3,800 now.

Any further reduction will be by way of normal attrition, to suit the business requirements at that time.

"We have managed to bring down the true overhead costs over the past few years, by about 30 percent to around R[ands]100m in 1991 rand values, and we are looking at bringing them down even further."

These reductions have been made, in part, by contracting out practically all internal services that were not part of AEC's core businesses.

"We asked ourselves why should we run a mainframe computing center, when our business is high technology in nuclear and nuclear related fields," he says. The answer was that it should not; this is now handled by private contract. Similarly the motor car pool was hived off to Avis; catering services went to another private contractor. Cleaning services are next.

The restructuring has been accompanied by what Stumpf describes as a "heavy culture change" in the organization. The net result, he says, is that the organization has been turned around sharply.

Though a State corporation, its culture is already more aligned with the commercial norms, says Stumpf. For example, staff readily work overtime when necessary.

"Some of our people worked through last Christmas to get a contract completed; the project has a very tight deadline and people had their leave cancelled. They worked day and night over Christmas and New Year, while others were on holiday. We have highly dedicated people here who really work very hard."

What stopped the AEC from outright privatization? "I personally support privatization, but with the present nuclear fuel situation, it is really not feasible to privatize when there is no chance of operating profitably in the short to medium term," he says. "There would need to be a far more substantial nuclear power programme locally to make that possible."

"We had to be realistic. If it would have been possible, by all means, yes, we would have gone for outright privatization, but it simply is not possible at this time. However, it is not ruled out in the longer term. We see the commercial emphasis as an in-between step, which may then lead to full privatization."

In the meantime, the performance of individual business units is being monitored closely to see that they react to the disciplines of the market. For capital, for instance, the AEC borrowed on the open market to create a small internal development fund. The business units borrow the money from this "internal bank" and pay back at prime rate.

The business units are also expected to contribute to the costs of the technology development group. This is essential for long-term viability, says the man in charge of the group, executive GM [General Manager] Anthony Jackson. Other hi-tech organizations spend up to 20 percent of their turnover on R&D, he notes.

From April 1 this year, all accumulated deficits of the business units are being discounted against future income.

"This is tough; it is really make or break," says Stumpf. "And any business units that cannot be made viable, will be terminated. We simply cannot allow any of them to remain a liability."

Jackson acknowledges that the group is likely to incur a deficit this year, but says he is confident that from 1991-1993 onwards it will be operating in "a surplus situation"—one in which income exceeds all direct costs.

"From that point, the business development group will be making a positive contribution to the rest of the AEC, and government funding will be reduced by the amount of this contribution."

From projections based on the AEC's market research, Stumpf expects that the corporation's commercial, non-fuel business will eventually account for the greater part of its income, even though it looks forward to a doubling of sales of reactor fuel elements to Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission] when the electricity giant's purchase contract with an overseas supplier runs out in 1996.

At present, the AEC covers its nuclear activity costs to the extent of about 35 percent from non-State sources, he says. "In effect, we are 35 percent less dependent on the State than we would have been without the commercialization drive. We expect to achieve at least 50 percent plus within four or five years and will continue to drive hard from there."

"We are committed to sound business planning supported by market research. We believe we can drive costs down further. While it may be optimistic to believe that the greater portion of our costs will be met from commercial activities by the end of this decade, we should at least be very close to that position."

But, having pared the organization down, he warns there is now a need to build it up to meet the challenges of the market. In particular, he says, SA [Republic of South Africa] cannot be allowed to fall behind in technology terms, as it would be extremely difficult to recover.

"The creation of wealth is dependent on the effective use of resources. These resources can be many things—minerals, people—but the lesson the world has learnt from the Far East and some other areas, is that the application of technology exerts a multiplier effect on the economy."

For the plan to come to fruition, he says, management needs to be given the time and the scope to make the AEC what he calls "one of the leading technology partners" in the country.

Part of the plan involves a major marketing effort spearheaded by several corporate marketers including natural scientist turned marketing manager Roland von Gogh.

"From being a secret and secretive organization, the AEC has made a 180 degree turn," he says. "Now we are not just ready to talk about what goes on here, we want to show everyone what we have to offer, which is a great deal."

Noting that the technologies, products and services now available on a commercial basis represent a huge investment, not only in money, but in time and effort, Von Gogh contends that its wider application holds massive potential benefits for industry and the country as a whole.

"We can certainly help industries become more productive," he says. "But more than that, we can help them produce new and better products that will enable them to compete more effectively in international markets."

Stumpf says he does not expect the turnaround to be easy. "It's a long, hard road ahead, but I find it exciting and believe that we have so much to offer to the country that we will succeed."

The public should soon be in a position to judge for itself how well the corporation's commercialization efforts are succeeding. Until now, AEC has not published its financial reports openly, but expects to do so perhaps from as early as next year, once certain financial considerations have been agreed with government.

* Business Units Listed

91AF1333D Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL
in English 16 Aug 91 p 13

[Text] The Atomic Energy Corp (AEC)'s business development programme has divided its technological capabilities among 10 business units and launched them as commercial operations.

They are:

- The Isotope Production Center—which provides radioactive isotopes and services for medical and industrial use;
- Turbo Systems Technology—which provides products and services in the field of compressors and similar equipment;
- Specialized Plating Technology—which offers sophisticated metal forming and plating techniques on to metal of plastic and consultancy services to industrial platers;
- Fluorochemicals—which manufactures a range of fluoride-based chemicals with wide application in industry;
- Flosep—which provides technology for separating solid particles from fluids, for example, dust from an air stream;
- Biogamm—which provides irradiation services to preserve food and extend shelf life by delaying ripening and eliminating pathogens;
- Earth and Environment Technology—which provides a wide range of multidisciplinary services from geological mapping to water resource management, air pollution control and management of hazardous wastes;

—Nuclear Techniques Industrial Services—which provides a wide range of techniques for solving plant and process problems;

—Aerosols—a small, highly specialized group offering air purification and filtration services to industry and medical establishments; and

—Noise Analysis—also a small group, offering sophisticated techniques for analyzing rotating machines, such as compressors, from the noise they make.

Numerous other technologies, products and services currently resident within the technology development programme are also marketed by the AEC.

* Fluorochemicals Produced

91AF1333E Johannesburg FINANCIAL MAIL
in English 16 Aug 91 p 28

[Text] The complex process of uranium enrichment at Atomic Energy Corp (AEC) processing plants starts with the conversion of a uranium compound known as yellow cake to uranium hexafluoride, a feed gas for further enrichment and fabrication into nuclear fuel element assemblies.

The conversion requires fluoride-based chemicals that the AEC produces in its own plant, the only one in SA [Republic of South Africa] and one of comparatively few in the world. Its products meet or exceed rigorous quality and safety standards.

The plant supplies all the AEC's own basic requirements, says CE [Chief Executive] Waldo Stumpf, but beyond this, the corporation saw the opportunity to diversify its market and started production of other fluoride chemicals.

"We are already making four or five fluoride-based chemicals that are selling in the local market," he says.

In fact, the bulk of the fluorochemicals produced at the AEC are now used in the non-nuclear industrial sector, where they have a broad range of applications.

Hydrogen fluoride (HF), for instance, is used as feedstock for fluoride products as well as for chemical cleaning operations in which pure reagents are required. Uses include the upgrading of petroleum products and manufacture of alkylate for detergent and chlorofluorocarbons.

Industrial grade aqueous HF has a wide range of applications, including the pickling of stainless steel, the polishing of cut glass, chemical cleaning, the preparation of surfaces for plating, diamond extraction processes and the preparation of natural gas wells.

According to AEC executive GM [General Manager] Anthony Jackson, the AEC itself uses only about 400 t a year of the plant's 4,500 t capacity. The rest is sold to chemical giant AECI [African Explosive and Chemical Industries] and other customers.

Jackson sees considerable potential for exports. "Environmental groups in some countries are so strong that they have prevented chemical manufacturers from building fluorochemical plants," he says. "That sort of difficulty has resulted in our receiving inquiries from America."

Fluorochemicals is already a major AEC business in terms of income, with projected sales this year of R[ands]28m.

The AEC is involved in a continual process of developing new products and improving production methods. Fluoride by-products are used in many applications, from treating drinking water to the manufacture of glass and plasterboard.

*** Air Force Chief Discusses Future Role**

91AF1336A Johannesburg ARMED FORCES
in English Aug 91 pp 10, 13

[Interview with Lieutenant General Jan van Loggerenberg, chief of the South African Air Force, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given: "AFJ Interviews the Chief of the South African Air Force"]

[Text] This interview took place before the South African Air Force had been the main players in the remarkable rescue of the passengers and crew members of the cruise liner, Oceanos, off the Transkei coast.

[ARMED FORCES] General, thank you for devoting the time for this interview, which I hope will assist in clearing up some of the questions that have arisen in recent months in respect of the SAAF's [South African Air Force's] present status, and the future. Many of these questions are as a result of opinions that have been advanced in connection with reported reductions in the Defence Budget.

To start at the beginning, is the South African Air Force investigating the possible replacement for the Harvard (T-6) as a future training aircraft?

[Van Loggerenberg] Yes. Our Harvards are, at this stage, nearly 50 years old, and we are looking at a replacement which will enable us to reduce the numbers of this type of aircraft on SAAF strength. With the right type of trainer, we will reduce the numbers of aircraft needed quite considerably.

[ARMED FORCES] Do you see that the SAAF's present training policy will remain, or do you see a change that will involve using more than one type of aircraft for initial training?

[Van Loggerenberg] No, I do not see any change in our ab initio training policy. We will continue to use only one type of aircraft for this phase of pilot training.

[ARMED FORCES] The Royal Canadian Air Force is contracting out to a commercial company for basic pilot training, both for fixed and rotary wing aircraft. Is there any chance that the SAAF will follow this policy?

[Van Loggerenberg] Yes, we have heard of this, but are short on full details of the proposed programme. We have also heard that there have been similar suggestions made in the United Kingdom. However, in South Africa we have far fewer air assets, and I do not see how we could follow the Canadian scheme.

[ARMED FORCES] I understand that you have flown the Rooivalk. What is your opinion of this aircraft?

[Van Loggerenberg] Although I have flown some of the SAAF's helicopters, I am not a "chopper" pilot; so my opinion is not that of a specialist. However, I was amazed at the smoothness of the aircraft in flight. At a 100 knots it was just the same as flying in a fixed-wing aircraft. The manoeuvres that the test pilot put the aircraft through, including NAP [expansion not given] flying, were very impressive.

[ARMED FORCES] If suitable aircraft are available from former Eastern Bloc countries, would the SAAF consider their purchase?

[Van Loggerenberg] When it comes to the purchasing of equipment we take an objective look at a number of factors, including price, performance and a most important aspect of any transaction, the support facilities that will be available. We must know that the product we buy will be supported by the manufacturer.

[ARMED FORCES] You have recently completed a rather interesting exercise, Golden Eagle. What was the purpose of the exercise and have you completed the evaluation?

[Van Loggerenberg] Yes, Golden Eagle was to test our readiness and particularly, our Command and Control. To do this, we used our existing infrastructure mainly at two of our air bases and exercised our command and control facilities. We undertake these exercises to apply lessons learned, and to implement our hi-tech facilities. It is impossible to complete this sort of training in a classroom for, in addition to the hi-tech equipment used, we have to consider the elements and the human factor which play a role in our work. I wish to emphasize that an exercise such as Golden Eagle is run by Permanent Force crews as part of their normal continuation training. It therefore does not involve any additional expenditure.

[ARMED FORCES] There were reports that, in the interests of standardisation, the SAAF was withdrawing a number of types of aircraft from service. Does this decision still stand?

[Van Loggerenberg] The question of standardisation needs careful consideration and is an important part of the SAAF's doctrine. Let me give you two examples. While the Mirage range of aircraft are fitted with an ATAR engine, these may be two different types and while the name ATAR is the same, it does not by any means mean that the engines are the same, or that they have much commonality. This is apart from a possible

variation in other equipment, such as radar. Another example is the Dakota. These aircraft were built at different plants and they vary in respect of specifications. For instance, some are longer than others, which means that such things as control cable cannot be drawn from stock with the knowledge that they will fit a particular aircraft. These are just some of the aspects that we are looking at when we speak of standardisation.

[ARMED FORCES] Has the Cheetah programme been completed and are there any other similar projects underway that you are able to talk about?

[Van Loggerenberg] The original programme as planned for the Cheetahs has been completed. As you know, we are continuously engaged in updating our fleet.

[ARMED FORCES] General, what is the position concerning aircrews? Are we able to retain sufficient pilots?

[Van Loggerenberg] Like other Air Forces, we also experience difficulties in retaining aircrews and technical staff. We lose too many pilots too soon, and this situation may become even worse when the expected upswing in the economy will create a greater demand from the airlines. We are still receiving sufficient applicants for aircrew and apprentice training. An interesting point as far as the latter is concerned, is the fact that the number of applicants have become noticeably less. This may be related to the reduction of the period of National Service from two years to one. It could mean that we are now attracting apprentices who want to make a career in the SAAF, as opposed to those who "used" the Air Force for training whilst getting some credit for National Service at the same time.

[ARMED FORCES] Are any plans being considered for Reserve pilots and aircrew?

[Van Loggerenberg] No, we are not considering this, and there is very little possibility that we will.

[ARMED FORCES] Thank you very much for your time and answers.

* Possible MK/TDF Link Examined

91AF1336B Johannesburg ARMED FORCES
in English Aug 91 p 14

[Article by D. G. Santos: "Is There a Link Between the Transkei Defence Force and Umkhonto we Sizwe?"]

[Text] For some time there has been speculation within informed European circles concerning the reports of a Third Force being active as a spoiler organisation in South Africa. Over the last few months it has been generally accepted in these circles that such a force does exist and recently available information indicates that the identity of this force is mostly the Military Wing of the African National Congress (ANC), Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK)[Spear of the Nation]. Both the ANC and MK have, in recent months, made numerous statements

in and outside South Africa defining the purpose the role of MK and while it must be accepted that some of these statements were for political reasons and propaganda, an analysis points to a willingness to resort to often-tried Communist doctrine of the use of force.

A number of recent events and statements by the ANC, the South African Communist Party (SACP) and supporters who are generally accepted as being outside these organisations, support these opinions.

Of particular importance was the discovery by the South African Police and other organisations of "Operation Vula." Membership of "Operation Vula" and its organisational/operational committees was split between ANC and SACP members. Vula was structured to be an underground command organisation in South Africa and to build an underground army to attempt an insurrection. The Vula committee which was responsible for the operational side comprised five members, Janet Love, Mac Maharaj, Kasrils, Nyanda and Chris Hani, all members of the MK and SACP. At the time of the arrest of the senior members of Vula by the South African Police, 12 regional committees were in the process of being established. The organisation had established a sophisticated and highly technological communications system which was to be used to set up a peoples' revolutionary army.

Authoritative sources have disclosed that when the South African Police swooped on command structures of Operation Vula, amongst the documents discovered were Transkei Defence Force (TDF) identity cards, signed by the Head of the Transkei Military Government and Chief of the Transkei Defence Force, General Bantu Holomisa. These identity documents showed that members of MK were officers in the TDF. At this stage it is not clear as to why these members of MK had been issued with documentation showing them as members of TDF. Two possible reasons are that it is an endeavour to place them in a professional military category should they become involved in any action in South Africa, or to try and establish some form of military bona fides in the event of a settlement which would entitle them to claim entrance into a professional defence structure, such as the South African Defence Force, as officers.

This issuing of Transkei Defence Force identity documents to members of Umkhonto we Sizwe ties in with other reports that MK has been allowed to establish a number of bases and training installations inside the Transkei. Other reports that can be considered in light of the above are those which concerned the visit of an ANC delegation to members of the French armaments industry, while another who has been reported to have followed this hazardous path in recent weeks is General Bantu Holomisa. However, all concerned would be well advised to take heed of the South African experience when dealing with French politicians and the armaments industry when entering into contractual agreements in the hope that they will be honoured.

Angola

Dos Santos Arrives in United States 15 Sep

MB1509195991 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 Sep 91

[Excerpt] President of the Republic Jose Eduardo dos Santos has already landed at [word indistinct] Air Base, some 200 km from Washington. His will be the first visit to the United States by an Angolan head of state. [passage omitted]

Urges U.S. Business Investments

MB1709201291 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Sep 91

[By Aires Walter]

[Text] The president of the Republic has just attended a function hosted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. On the occasion he made perhaps the most important speech since his arrival in Washington on a private visit to the United States. In fact, his speech explicitly invited U.S. enterprises to take part in the development of the People's Republic of Angola.

The president spoke at length about the ongoing changes in Angola, as well as possibilities that have been created so that U.S. enterprises may take part in the socioeconomic reconstruction of the People's Republic of Angola. For instance, the president noted that although the two countries do not have diplomatic relations, the United States is Angola's main economic partner. He said that Angola has the third highest level of cooperation with the United States among African nations.

The president of the Republic said that economic problems will be resolved with the help of all friendly countries. He expressed his interest in seeing the United States among those countries from whom Angola expects further aid in developing its economy. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos stressed that he expected more U.S. businessmen in Angola to deal with investments and with Angola's economic future. The president said he believed that there was a brilliant future ahead and that the role to be played by U.S. businessmen could be very valuable and even vital to the Angolan economy [words indistinct].

The U.S. [as heard] president's speech served to explain to some 200 U.S. businessmen, representing the most important U.S. companies, the steps being taken by Angola in a transition to a market economy. In his 30-minute speech of 12 pages, the president said that he would like to see all commercial barriers eliminated as soon as possible. He said that the United States still has in force some legislation preventing stable trade relations between Washington and Luanda. The president expressed Angola's interest in seeing those commercial barriers lifted in order to deepen the friendship that has been established since his arrival in the United States, to

widen relations between the Angolan and U.S. Governments, to normalize relations, and to hasten the emergence of mutually advantageous relations.

Government Troops Said Confined in Cuando Cubango

MB1709205491 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpt] A total of 1,211 government troops have already been confined in Missongo location, Cuando Cubango Province. This was revealed to Cuando Cubango radio station by Colonel Joao Baptista, who heads the FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] delegation to the subcommission of the Joint Verification and Control Commission [CMVF] shortly after he and other CMVF members visited the area. UN Angola Verification Mission-2 [Unavem-2] observers, who have been in the province for two months now, also attended the meeting. [passage omitted]

FAPLA-FALA Military Commands Meet in Benguela

MB1809091591 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 0600 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]-Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] military commands in Benguela Province have held their fourth meeting, and conditions have already been created for the free movement of people and goods. This was revealed by Major Antonio Detenur, head of the regional Joint Verification and Control Subcommission. The meeting also decided to create joint commissions, including the deployment of UN Angola Verification Mission-2 groups in different corners of Benguela Province to guarantee movement's control.

Emerging Opposition Parties Divided in 2 Groups

MB1809092091 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Excerpt] In Luanda, the emerging parties are divided into two groups. The first group is made up of members of the Standing Secretariat for the Multiparty National Conference, which was established in July. The second group consists of parties which have begun to hold regular meetings early in September. Speaking about the two groups in Luanda today, Paulino Pinto Joao, coordinator of the constituent commission of the Angolan National Democratic Convention, said the opposition parties in Angola should seek to adopt a common strategy either jointly or through bilateral consultations in order to help in the democratization of the country. [passage omitted]

* Cavaco Silva Seen Loser in Angolan Visit

91P20418Z

[Editorial Report] A spate of articles in the Portuguese press point to Prime Minister Cavaco Silva's discomfiture at having failed to meet with Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) during his recent visit to that country.

The 7 September Lisbon weekly EXPRESSO in Portuguese reports on pages A1 and A24 that in spite of repeated contacts between Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials and UNITA representatives in Lisbon aimed at setting the scene for the Cavaco Silva-Savimbi meeting, it was only upon the Portuguese prime minister's arrival in Luanda that UNITA officials proposed a meeting in Benguela on the last day of his visit. This "last minute" proposal was rejected by the Portuguese side, on the grounds that both the official and the nonofficial programs for the visit were full. UNITA representatives had earlier argued that Savimbi's absence from Luanda was due to difficulty in finding adequate housing in the capital, to which the Angolan Government had retorted that "Savimbi has no house yet because he does not want one." In the press conference preceding his departure from Luanda, Cavaco Silva emphasized he was "very sorry" he had not met with the UNITA leader. EXPRESSO also quoted a source close to President Mario Soares, according to whom Savimbi's "exclusion from Cavaco's agenda aroused dissatisfaction in Belem [the Lisbon presidential residence]." The issue was reportedly discussed between the prime minister and the president at their weekly 6 September meeting.

An editorial on page A6 in the 7 September EXPRESSO notes that Cavaco Silva's failure to meet with Jonas Savimbi means that "he left Portugal as a statesman and returned like a simple political leader," since the visit was seen as "electoral propaganda simultaneously benefiting two figures who will soon be facing the ballot box, the Portuguese prime minister, and the Angolan president." Despite expressing his sorrow about his failure to meet with Savimbi, Cavaco Silva "wished to visit Angola at all costs," failed to make the appropriate contacts, and had no guarantees that he would stand above partisan dealings in that country. Worse, he "happily" allowed himself to get involved in a Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) rally at which he agreed to make extemporaneous remarks. Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos "could not have asked for more." The editorial wonders at Cavaco Silva's "naivete," and notes that having bet on the MPLA, his only hope now resides in the party's victory at the polls. Were the opposite to occur, it would mean "the destruction of the vast and valuable investment Cavaco Silva has made in Angola."

The 7 September Lisbon daily PUBLICO in Portuguese publishes on page 12 an article by Maria Joao Avilez, who notes that Cavaco Silva had "already confessed to this reporter on the flight to Angola that he was concerned" because Savimbi had not yet confirmed his

presence in Luanda during the visit. Avilez cites "reliable sources" as saying that the prime minister had even postponed his visit until the first week in September "to give Jonas Savimbi more maneuvering room." Nevertheless, Cavaco Silva seemingly addressed himself only to one of the Angolan sides during his visit and may have contributed to the notion that a "certain complicity" existed between him and Jose Eduardo dos Santos. In light of these events, Avilez asks the "inevitable" question: "Who set up Cavaco Silva?"

An article by Eduardo Damaso on page 12 of the 7 September PUBLICO quotes the leader of the Social Democratic Center Party (CDS), Freitas do Amaral, as saying that "Cavaco Silva violated the principle of impartiality that Portugal had to maintain between the two sides that signed the Estoril peace agreement." The prime minister's involvement in a clearly partisan MPLA rally, Freitas remarked, "highly reprehensible." In his opinion, he added, the prime minister went to Angola to "gather electoral trump cards and not because of cooperation...which never stopped."

The 7 September Lisbon weekly SEMANARIO in Portuguese publishes on page 2 an article by Dina Soares, who says that "Cavaco had to pay a very high price for his success in winning the race to Angola by chiefs of state and government after the signature of the peace agreement." The prime minister's "haste" in visiting Angola before Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez—who eventually canceled his visit—and Brazil's Collor de Melo "fundamentally" stemmed from the "partisan dividends" he wished to extract from his visit. His expectations, however, were unrealized when no agreement could be reached for the venue of his meeting with Savimbi: The UNITA leader could never agree to a meeting in Angola's capital, where he could not arrive as a "second class figure," nor to one in Luena, even if UNITA and the MPLA coexist there. Savimbi wished to receive Cavaco Silva in his capital of Jamba; according to sources close to the prime minister, however, a Jamba meeting would have been impossible, as this would "implicitly admit" that Angola is still divided; moreover, it would have constituted an "unthinkable" affront to the "almost perfect host" Jose Eduardo dos Santos revealed himself to be.

The 7 September SEMANARIO carries an unsigned article on page 2, which maintains that pressure was reportedly applied by people close to President Mario Soares to prevent a Cavaco-Savimbi meeting, as a "small revenge" by Soares on the prime minister. The incident, which, the article notes, "will not be forgotten by UNITA," has affected relations between Lisbon and Jamba and the "reasonable understanding" that has prevailed thus far. Cavaco Silva's refusal to visit Jamba means that Portugal is condemned to a lonely and "listless penance process" as the principal mediator of the Angolan peace process.

Mozambique

Renamo Attacks Lalaua, Wounds District Commander

MB1809084691 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0800 GMT 18 Sep 91

[Text] Three Mozambique Armed Forces [FAM] soldiers were wounded, one of them seriously, when the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] attacked the Lalaua District capital in Nampula Province last Saturday morning. A spokesman from the Nampula Provincial Military Command cited by NOTICIAS newspaper confirmed that one of the wounded soldiers is the FAM district commander who led a recent operation which resulted in the district's recapture from Renamo.

Zambia

Opposition Parties Alliance To Contest Elections

MB1709184291 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] In Zambia, three political parties have formed an alliance to contest the 31 October multiparty elections. It is the National Democratic Alliance, the National Party for Democracy, and the Multiracial Party.

Opposition Party Convention Termed 'Undemocratic'

MB1709194691 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] The National Democratic Alliance [Nada] convention held in Lusaka last weekend has been described as undemocratic with a section of delegates agreeing to hold a caucus meeting to resolve the matter. Speaking on behalf of 12 Nada members, who have rejected the results of the convention, interim chairman for youth Mr. (Peter Kualya) said in Lusaka today that the elections had no secret ballots, and in a statement signed by the 12 members, who include Dr. (Victor Mkonkola) and Dr. (Acton Nkunda), it is alleged that the convention had bus loads of people who were taken to the meeting to support certain individuals. Mr. (Kualya) said as a result of the undemocratic tendencies, which, he said, should not have characterized the new party, many (?interim) office bearers (?did not contest) the elections.

Opposition Official on IMF, World Bank Action

MB1709144891 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Movement for Multiparty Democracy, MMD, Chairman for Economic and Finance Committee (Akashamba Mbikusita Lewanika), has warned that Zambians might face serious hunger this year following the International Monetary Fund, IMF, and the World Bank suspension of loan facilities to Zambia. Mr. (Mbikusita Lewanika), who is also Mongu MMD parliamentary candidate, made the prediction when he met several Mongu businessmen at Ngulu hotel at the weekend to discuss the

mealie meal distribution system in the area. He told the meeting, attended by several prominent businessmen in the district, that donor countries have also indicated that they may not supply Zambia with maize, the staple food, until February next year.

Zimbabwe

New 'Open Forum' Chairman Discusses Aims

MB1709182891 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 17 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] A political organization known as the Open Forum is causing quite a stir in Zimbabwe's southern region of Matabeleland. It is holding rallies and meetings and drawing bigger crowds than the ruling ZANU-PF [Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front] party, but it has been accused of trying to start a new political party to revive the spirit of the old ZAPU [Zimbabwe African People's Union] party, which merged with ZANU to form ZANU-PF, and had its stronghold in Matabeleland. In Bulawayo, Colette Nkala talked to the Open Forum's chairman, Dr. Temba Ndlovu, and asked what in fact their aims were.

[Begin recording] [Ndlovu] The Open Forum is aimed at trying to encourage a culture of tolerance, freedom of speech. We want our people to hear alternative views from people who might have other ideas about the society in which we live in Zimbabwe.

[Nkala] I see. I have been hearing people saying that some members of the Open Forum are former members of ZAPU who are trying to form a party using the Open Forum. Is that correct?

[Ndlovu] There might be some members who are former members of ZAPU. I don't agree that these people want to form a party. I think Open Forum is, as it is a open forum, we really are open. We are inviting people from other parties to come and discuss those problems they think we have in our society. There might definitely be people who are interested in forming a party, but when they want to do so they will come out in the open and form a party.

[Nkala] Now I understand you were recently questioned by the security agents. What was it in connection with?

[Ndlovu] They wanted to come and interview me in connection with Open Forum, but I said no. I refused to be interviewed.

[Nkala] So you didn't get any problems after that?

[Ndlovu] No, I didn't.

[Nkala] Is it true that you are actually antigovernment yourself?

[Ndodlu] Not at all. How can I be antigovernment? What for? And this government was elected by a majority of people, although I am not happy with their methods of campaigning, but apparently about 70 percent of the people who voted, I think, voted for them, and I think they should be given a chance. I disagree a lot with their policies, and I think when the time comes I will still maybe oppose them if I am given the opportunity to.

[Nkala] I see. You were recently quoted as saying you were against the appointment of Bernard Chidzero to contest the candidacy of the UN Secretary General. Do you have any reasons for that?

[Ndodlu] Yes. Bernard Chidzero has been a member of cabinet since independence, and, as you know, soon after independence ZANU-PF's Central Committee and the cabinet, I think, were involved in decisions which were made to come and liquidate ZAPU. Of course ZAPU was a euphemism from the Ndebele people. They came in here, sent an Army which was North Korean trained; that army came here and caused havoc. We lost people here, and as you know we had a lot of refugees in

Botswana. And that is a time which is very difficult to forget for most of the people in this part of the world.

And I don't think Bernard Chidzero can have it both ways—sit in a cabinet, which is involved in the violation of human rights and then go to lead the United Nations, an organization which tries to promote the observation of human rights all over the world. He cannot have it both ways. He either has to declare or show remorse, and in fact, apologize to the people of Zimbabwe for having said, and done nothing when he sat in a cabinet which was involved in such atrocities.

[Nkala] Now I have attended some of the meetings and I have discovered that most of the speakers you invite to speak to the audience, actually they speak against the government.

[Ndodlu] That is not true. I think you have missed some of our meetings. We have invited even progovernment speakers to come and talk to us. We have invited, for instance, I would name an MP [Member of Parliament], a staunch ZANU-PF MP, Mr. Malunga. Occasionally we invite somebody who probably has ideas or opinions which are different from those of government, but that is why we are Open Forum. We want all ideas to come forward. [end recording]

Burkina Faso

Head of State Compaore Returns From Ivory Coast

AB1709222691 Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion
Nationale du Burkina Radio in French 2200 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Captain Blaise Compaore, the head of state, returned tonight from Yamoussoukro where he took part as an observer in the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] minisummit on Liberia. This summit was attended by the presidents and representatives of 10 ECOWAS countries in a bid to find a political settlement to the Liberian conflict. [passage omitted]

The Gambia

People's Democratic Party Launched in Banjul

AB1709155691 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 16 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Today saw the launching in The Gambia of yet another political party. The prospect of general elections next year has already led to the formation of four opposition political parties to challenge Sir Dawda Jawara's ruling PPP [People's Progressive Party]. Now it is the turn of the People's Democratic Party [PDP] to prepare for the hustings. From Banjul, Peter da Costa telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] With its official color orange and adopted symbol, a milking cow, The Gambia People's Democratic Party, the PDP, is the brainchild of Dr. (Lamine Bodjang), a 37-year old medical doctor who runs a private clinic Brikama, some 30 km from the capital, Banjul. Asked this morning why he decided to go into politics, Dr. (Bodjang) said his decision was prompted by dissatisfaction with the status quo and the desire to bring about meaningful change. If you look at our system, he said, it is democratic only on paper. When asked what he meant, Dr. (Bodjan) cited as an example his own experience: When I graduated, I was supposed to get a car loan for which I applied formally. But from 1982 until 1989, when I went into private practice, I could not even get 1,000 dalasis from the bank. It seems that loans are available only to those who know people in the hierarchy, irrespective of your qualifications.

According to the PDP leader, the party's aim is not to aimlessly criticize the ruling PPP government, but rather to offer an effective alternative. The new party's objective, he said, would include aiming for agricultural self-sufficiency, speeding up the march toward education for all, and putting in place roads and other infrastructure vital for development.

The birth of the right-of-center PDP brings to five the number of opposition parties in The Gambia, and comes as political aspirants countrywide begin their logistical

preparations for next year's general election. With 31 seats in parliament, and a track record of never having lost any elections, the PPP has made government a de facto one-party affair. Its nearest rival, the 16-year National Convention Party, the NCP, led by one-time vice president, Sherif Dibba, has suffered a downturn in fortunes with the resignation of key members. Pundits are predicting the PDP will replace the NCP as main opposition party, though a few believe the new party capable of rocking the PPP boat.

Dr. (Bodjang), a political novice, is known to have popular support in the (Brikama) area since his medical services are as much as 50 percent cheaper than those offered at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Banjul. [end recording]

Ghana

Importance of ECOWAS Summit on Liberia Noted

AB1809092591 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation
Radio Network in English 1300 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Kwesi Adiku commentary]

[Text] Once again, West African states are making another effort to settle Liberia's 21-month old civil conflict. The minisummit in Yamoussoukro, the political capital of Cote d'Ivoire, involves members of the five-nation committee on Liberia, namely Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, The Gambia, and Togo. It is sad that Guinea has decided to boycott the talks in protest at being given only an observer status. Guinea, whose troops form part of the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group] force in Liberia, has contributed much to the peace process which could receive a jolt if she withdraws at this stage. It is hoped sound judgment and sober reflection would help avert any move that will hamper the negotiations.

The story of Liberia is a tragic one which has repercussions for the whole of the subregion. At the moment, fighting is raging on between Sierra Leone and forces of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL]. Fighting is also reported to have escalated in the past week between Taylor's rebels and Liberian refugees aided by the remnants of the late President Doe's forces. Against this background, the Yamoussoukro talks could be seen as a crucial stage and a vital link in efforts to bring an end to the conflict, which has devastated Liberia.

The stalemate in the Liberian peace process arose when Taylor refused to abide by the agreement signed by the factions last November which provides for the disarming of rival groups. Liberia's interim government insists that no fair elections as envisaged under the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace plan can be held with the factions armed to the teeth. The whole peace process has been bogged down by the vacillating attitudes of certain key players in the negotiations. This is not the time to apportion blame, however,

West African leaders must be urged in earnest to refrain from aiding rebel groups to use their borders as transit points for arms and other logistics. Perhaps the talks will serve as a forum to rethink and redirect ECOWAS strategy on Liberia. It is good to note that Senegal has agreed to send troops to aid ECOMOG. This will go a long way to remove the apparent anglophone-francophone divide on the Liberian issue.

Taylor favors a UN force to replace ECOMOG. It should be noted that the West African peacekeeping force has performed creditably so far under prevailing difficult and complex conditions. It is up to all factions involved in the negotiations to exhibit full commitment to peace, to help end the protracted conflict. No amount of outside intervention will resolve the problem if key Liberian figures in the conflict are not committed to efforts to bring peace to their country.

Lifting Restrictions on Passports Explained

AB1809100491 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 0700 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] The government has explained the rationale behind its decision to remove restrictions on Ghanaian passports for travel to South Africa. This is to enable South African holders of Ghanaian passports to return home after the minority white government decides to allow all exiles to go back to South Africa. The explanation is contained in an address read for the deputy secretary for foreign affairs, Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, at a forum in Accra to mark the 21st anniversary of the Ghana National Committee Against Apartheid.

He said Ghana has pursued a consistent policy aimed at promoting the political and economic advancement of the continent. The strong stand of the people against apartheid explains why Ghana has no political, military, cultural, sporting, or diplomatic relations with South Africa. Dr. Chambas urged all antiapartheid groups to intensify the struggle until a universal adult suffrage is achieved and there is a new constitution in South Africa.

The chairman of the Ghana National Committee Against Apartheid, Mr. Fred Agyemang, said the committee is fighting a concept as sinister as the slave trade and this calls for strong hearts and minds.

The chief justice, Mr. Justice P.E.N.K. Archer chaired the function. He commended the committee for its remarkable successes, despite financial constraints.

Guinea

Interim Foreign Minister on Liberian Situation

AB1709212191 London BBC World Service in English 1830 GMT 16 Sep 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Conakry has maintained more than a keen interest in developments in Sierra Leone and Liberia. They contributed a contingent to the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] peacekeeping force, which has been deployed in Liberia, and they have been helping Sierra Leone repel a rebel invasion. And in sharing a common border with northern Liberia, there have also been tensions along that frontier. There have been reports of incursions into Guinean territory by rebels loyal to Charles Taylor and allegations that Guinean territory is being used for training by Liberian exiles. Well, at the weekend, the Guinean interim foreign minister, Rene Alseni Gomez, held a press conference. Fode Fofana was there and telexed this report from Conakry:

[Begin studio announcer recording] At his press conference, Foreign Minister Gomez confirmed that about a week ago, an unidentified and unauthorized plane flew over northeastern Guinea. He said that the plane was spotted over Labe between 3 A.M. and 6 A.M. in the morning. He said I cannot definitely say that the plane belonged to Mr. Charles Taylor's forces, but what I can tell you is that we have now issued specific instructions to the Armed Forces to ensure that such a violation of our airspace is not repeated.

Asked about reports that Charles Taylor's men are messing on the Guinea-Liberia border, the foreign minister said, and I quote: I am in a position to assure that our frontiers are well secured. I put it to Foreign Minister Gomez that Liberian refugees are training in Guinean territory to fight Taylor's forces. Mr. Gomez replied, and I quote: Mr. Fofana, since it is you who is affirming this, I would like you to tell us where they are being trained. What I can tell for free is that it has never been the policy of the Guinean Government to interfere in Liberian affairs.

A number of my Guinea colleagues and the press concern over what they refer to as another man's war. They wanted to know from the minister how much it was costing to keep Guinean troops in Sierra Leone and was it worth it in the light of Guinea's present economic crisis. The minister replied that Guinea's contribution to the fighting in Sierra Leone was vital to Guinea's future. He said if Taylor succeeded in taking over Sierra Leone, his next target would be Guinea. Any expenditure in Sierra Leone is vital for the defense of our territorial integrity. [end recording]

Commentary on Liberia Minisummit Conclusions

AB1809105591 Conakry Radiodiffusion-Television Guineenne Radio Network in French 1945 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] The minisummit that brought together the representatives of nine African countries charged with solving the Liberian crisis ended today in Yamoussoukro. Among the decisions made at the meeting, we may note that a mission is to be dispatched as soon as possible to

Sierra Leone and Guinea to convince the two presidents to participate in the Yamoussoukro process.

That said, it must be noted that nothing else can be done: the Liberian crisis can never be definitively solved without the participation of Sierra Leone and Guinea, two neighboring countries that are literally involved in the restoration of peace in that martyred country.

[Words indistinct] had up until now pretended to ignore the realities. Very recently, President Houphouet-Boigny made overtures toward his Guinean counterpart, Lansana Conte, who no doubt refused the offer, deeming that our country did not need to occupy a (?joker's place) at Yamoussoukro III, particularly since it had not been invited to the preceding Yamoussoukro meetings. It is necessary more than ever for the participants in the Yamoussoukro minisummits [words indistinct] the effective participation of Guinea and Sierra Leone. [passage indistinct]

This time, and without (?further) delay, they have decided to send a mission to Conakry and to Freetown to confer with the heads of state of these two countries. The mission comprises Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, The Gambia, and Nigeria. (?Anyhow) Guinea and Sierra Leone are prepared for dialogue but we should beware (?of disloyalty), more so because it is, indeed, the security of the subregion that is seriously threatened. It is equally true that our Armed Forces will fight valiantly against all forms of rebellion. Guineans, Liberians, and Sierra Leoneans need security, and this is sufficient reason for the authorities of these countries to stand on their feet, not only on the ground, but also to seek all other ways for solving, once and for all, this fratricidal conflict that appears to be getting out of hand. No one should be deceived: No matter how long you run round the hut, you will always end up passing through its only door. That is what the Yamoussoukro summit has done: so much the better.

Minister on Adoption of Multiparty System

AB1709135091 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 15 Sep 91

[Text] The democratic process in Guinea might begin in January since the legislation has to be ready by 31 January. This is what Alseny Rene Gomez told our special correspondent Guy-Bertrand Mapagou in Conakry in an exclusive interview. It must be recalled that Alseny Rene Gomez is the minister secretary general of the Presidency of the Republic of Guinea. Mr. Gomez added that the criticism that democracy would be delayed in Guinea, was unfounded. Let us listen to the No. 2 man of the Guinean regime:

[Begin recording] [Gomez] Those people, who say that Guinea was the first country to launch the idea of democracy but will be last to adopt it, are mistaken. Guinea will adopt democracy on time, even before those who are clamoring it. What I can tell you is that the December 91 deadline will be met by the Transitional

Committee for National Recovery, concerning the submission of the requested draft bills.

[Mapagou] Mr. minister, is an unlimited multiparty system provided for in these draft bills instead of a two-party system as advocated by President Lansana Conte on 2 October 1989?

[Gomez] At the beginning a two-party system was suggested, but it is possible to amend the Constitution in regard to the number of parties. If, therefore, national conditions require the creation of other parties by 1992, nothing can prevent that from happening because it is provided for in the Constitution. [end recording]

Guinea-Bissau

Opposition Protests Administration's 'Banditry'

AB1709211291 Paris AFP in French 1138 GMT
17 Sep 91

[Text] Bissau, 17 Sep (AFP)—One of the leaders of the Resistance of Guinea-Bissau/Movement of Bafata (RGB/MB, opposition party) announced that the party has decided to suspend its activities to protest against the "banditry" and the "intimidations" of the administration. According to Helder Vaz Lopez, secretary for external relations of the RGB/MB, the regional officials of Bolama (in the south) have refused to legalize the list of his party's activists, thereby hindering him from presenting his documents to obtain the party's recognition.

Vaz Lopez has proposed the holding of a national conference with a view to examining the political problems of Guinea-Bissau and has made moves toward this with the four opposition political parties of the country. The national conference should make it possible, according to him, to revise the law on parties, to draw up an electoral code and press law, as well as define the criteria and methods of organizing a population census, and, last, to decide on the abolition of the political police.

Liberia

ULIMO Says Offensive Directed at NPFL

AB1709132191 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] The United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia, ULIMO, has assured Liberians that its offensive against the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, NPFL, is not directed at them nor the Interim Government of National Unity. A telex from Liberia's minister counselor in Washington D.C., (Foh Nyan) quoted ULIMO spokesman [name indistinct] saying ULIMO will not [words indistinct] hostages who must be released.

The telex also quoted Mr. [name indistinct] as saying that ULIMO will not harm the [words indistinct] as the organization's detractors are insinuating. According to him, ULIMO has no intention of attacking Monrovia,

adding ULIMO's activities will be judged when it captures the territory in Cape Mount and Bong Counties and (?that) citizens and residents have been protesting against Taylor's mercenaries.

NPFL Said Controlling Mano River Bridge

*AB1709133091 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 16 Sep 91*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Ever since Charles Taylor, the Liberian rebel leader claimed at the beginning of this month that his territory had been invaded by a force from Sierra Leone, there has been claim and counterclaim about who controls the Mano River Bridge, which links the two countries. Responsibility for the invasion was claimed by a hitherto unknown group called ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] thought to have links with ex-president Doe's forces, which said it had penetrated deep into Liberia. The bridge appears to have changed hands several times, with the latest claim to be holding it coming from Charles Taylor. Matthew Tostevine, has just been to the area. He is now back in Freetown and on the line Robin White asked him who was in control:

[Begin recording] [Tostevine] At the moment Charles Taylor is correct. About two weeks ago, the bridge was taken by the Sierra Leone Army, Wednesday, the week before last. Two days later it was taken back by Charles Taylor, and the day after that it was taken back again by the Sierra Leone Army. Then last Wednesday, Charles Taylor reoccupied the bridge and possibly came somewhere inside Sierra Leonean territory.

[White] Do you know how far inside Sierra Leone he is?

[Tostevine] I do not believe he came very far. I do not believe that he is interested in invading Sierra Leone, a full scale invasion of Sierra Leone, because of the potential consequences.

[White] Do the Sierra Leoneans admit now that Charles Taylor holds the Mano River Bridge?

[Tostevine] Yes, there is no pretense about Charles Taylor not holding the Mano River Bridge. They have not made any statement, but he has been holding the bridge since he took it last. The situation is very fluid, and moves backward and forward. In a few days' time, maybe the Sierra Leone Army will be in control.

[White] Now, at the same time as all this was going on, a rebel Liberian group called ULIMO claimed that it had

moved into Liberian territory, into Charles Taylor's territory. Now do you have any news on that at all?

[Tostevine] Well, what happened about two weeks ago when the soldiers took the bridge was that some of the ULIMO soldiers went about seven miles inside Liberia but because the Sierra Leone Government called them back, they came back the same day. There was no major invasion of Liberia. There was not an invasion; it was just a minor incursion, just to secure the bridge but since that time they have come back anyway. The claims that there were large numbers of soldiers who crossed there was completely false. [end recording]

Senegal

Iranian Construction Jihad Minister Visits

*AB1709151891 Dakar PANA in French 1315 GMT
16 Sep 91*

[Text] Dakar, 16 Sep (APS-SEN/PANA)—Iran is the first victim of the hostage-taking game and has always condemned taking hostages and terrorism, Gholam Reza Foruzesh, the Iranian construction jihad minister, said in Dakar yesterday.

In an interview aired last night by Senegalese television, the Iranian minister, who has been visiting Dakar since 14 September, said that his country is the first victim of the hostage-taking game, a practice "that we have always condemned along with terrorist activities throughout the world."

"I believe that the current efforts in favor of hostages will lead to the release of all hostages, including the Iranian hostages still in the hands of various groups throughout the world," Mr. Foruzesh added.

The Iranian minister, who was talking at the end of his meeting with President Abdou Diouf, said that he delivered a message from Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who expressed his "willingness and determination" to see "a cooperation in all fields" between Dakar and Tehran. The Iranian emissary said that he reiterated President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's invitation to his Senegalese counterpart for an official visit to Tehran.

Questioned on whether his country will take part effectively in the upcoming summit of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], scheduled to take place in Dakar in December, the Iranian minister said: "The ICO is very important for Iran, and I think that shortly before the summit, we will be able to answer this question more concretely."

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